



This PDF was generated on 14/12/2016 from online resources as part of the Qatar Digital Library's digital archive.

The online record contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions. It can be viewed at:

http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100000000193.0x0001dd

Reference	IOR/R/15/1/504
Title	'File 53/32 III (D 53) Kuwait - Miscellaneous'
Date(s)	3 Sep 1912-4 Jun 1928 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 volume (240 folios)
Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>

About this record

This file contains correspondence related to a number of different matters all of which concern Kuwait. Of particular interest are the following:

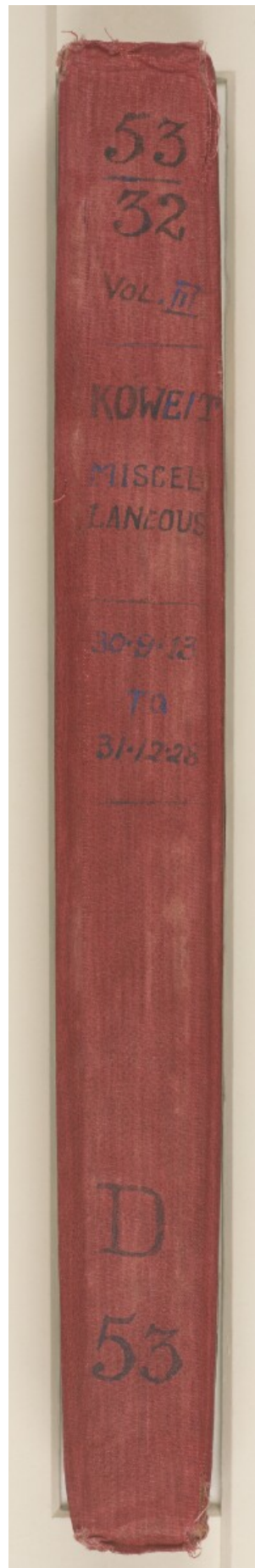
- Correspondence between Sir Percy Zachariah Cox, the British Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and Paul Wilberforce Harrison of the American Mission, November 1912 (ff. 16-17).
- A sketch map of the area south west of Riyadh [Riyadh], October 1913 (f. 22).
- Correspondence regarding William Henry Shakespear's desire to travel in Arabia and details of his subsequent trip, November 1913-March 1914 (ff. 23-26, f. 30, ff. 43-46).
- Discussions between British officials regarding whether or not the ruler of Kuwait should be addressed as 'His Excellency', May-August 1914 (f. 50 and ff. 54-70).
- A letter from William George Grey, British Political Agent in Kuwait that discusses reasons for remaining Arab support for the Ottoman Empire in the war, June 1915 (ff. 86-90).
- Information concerning Shaikh Aḥmad al-Jābir Āl Ṣabāḥ's visit to London, December 1919 (ff. 125-136).
- A report concerning an attack on two Kuwaiti subjects and four Najdis in which three of the party were killed by two assailants, March 1925 (f. 169). A list of items stolen from the party is also included (f. 170).
- A detailed briefing note compiled by James Carmichael Moore, the British Political Agent

in Kuwait, December 1927. The note contains profiles of several prominent figures in Kuwait (and the surrounding region) and information on the state's schools, economy and trade (ff. 217-226). The note also contains a map of Kuwait and its neighbouring areas (f. 221) and details of the different types of shipping vessels used in the country with hand-drawn sketches of the different vessels (ff. 223-226).

- A letter from Lionel Berkeley Holt Haworth, the British Political Resident in the Persian Gulf discussing Britain's desire to keep Kuwait separate from Iraq and outlining the rationale behind such a policy, April 1928 (ff. 231-232).





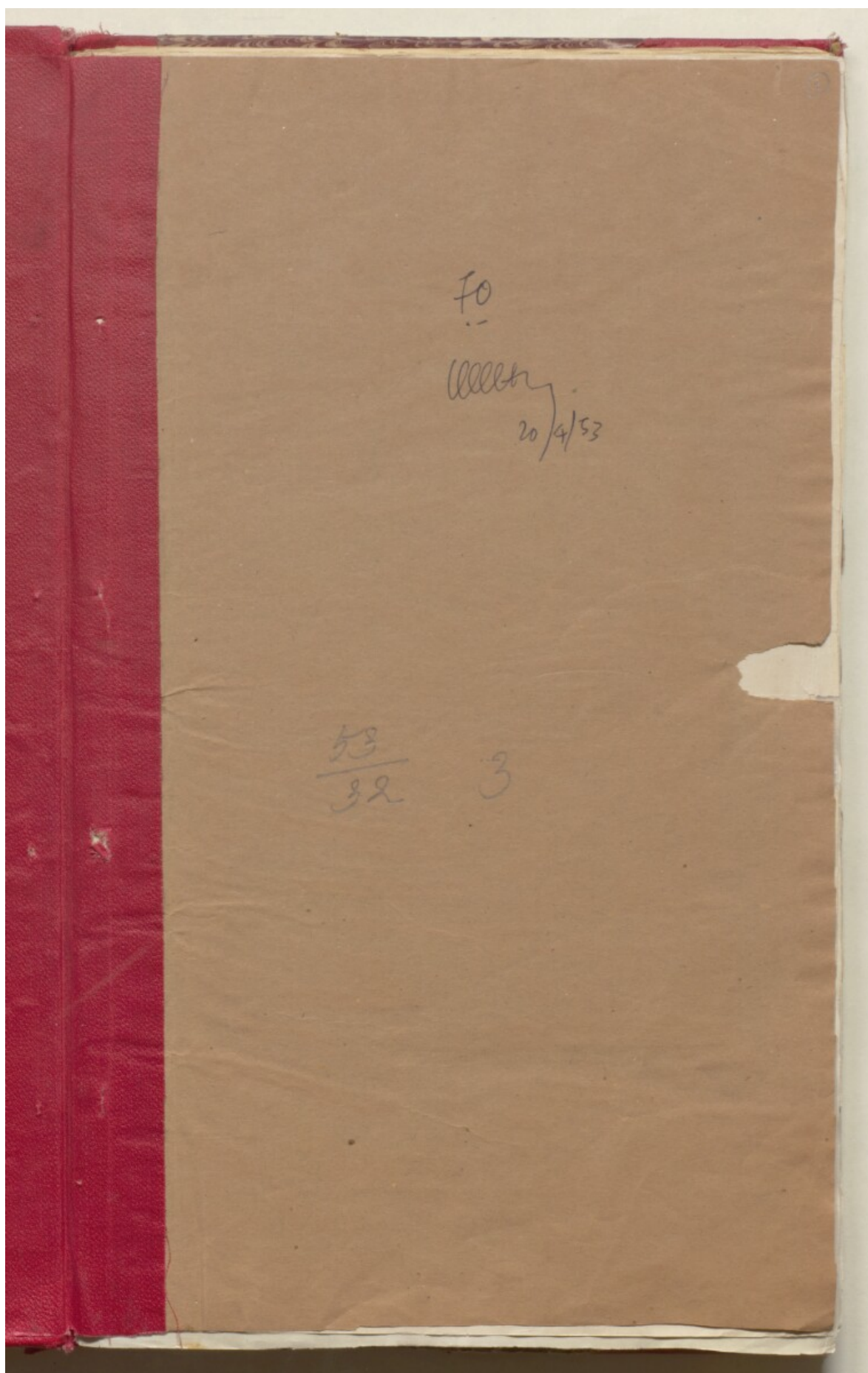


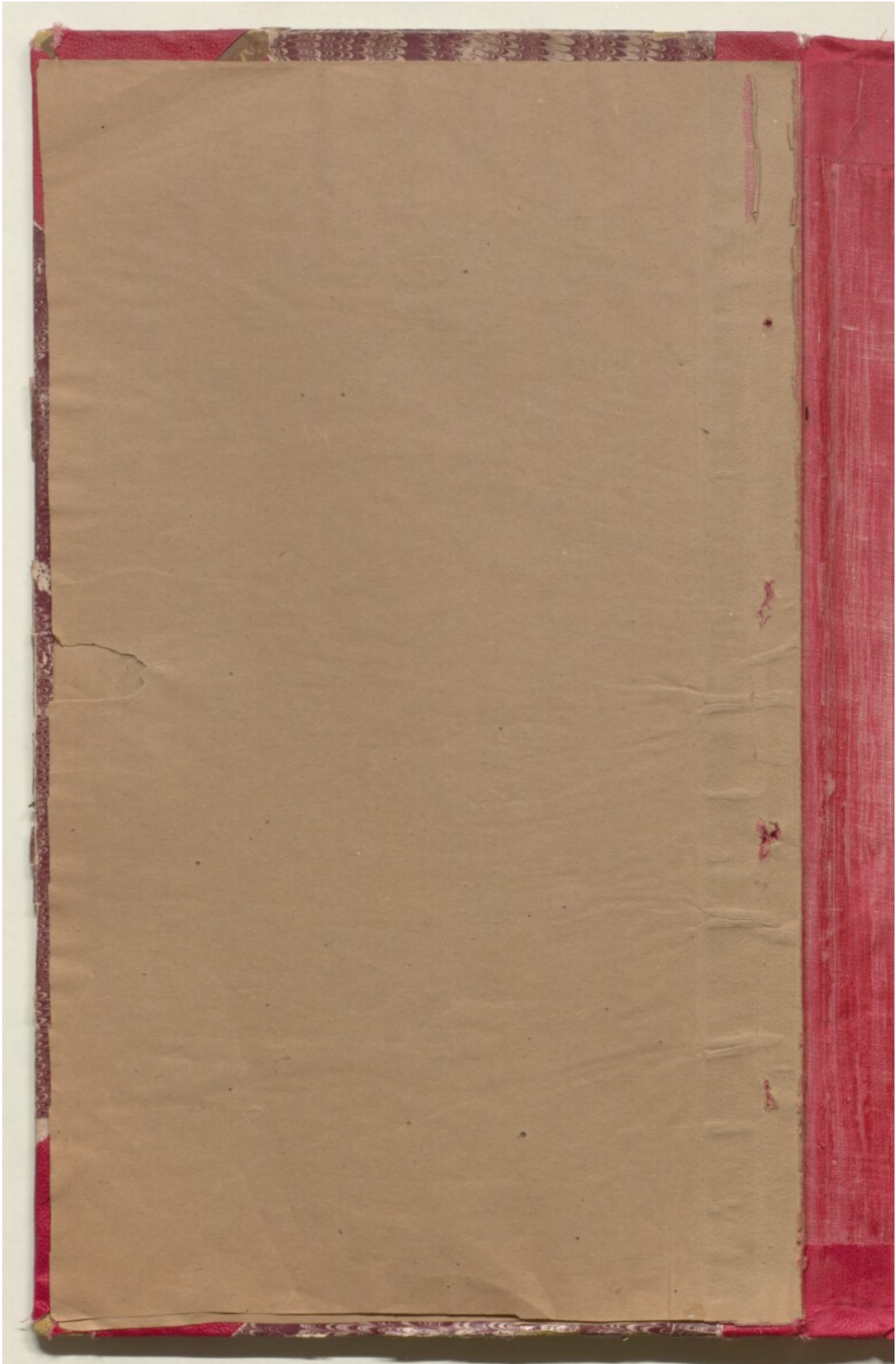


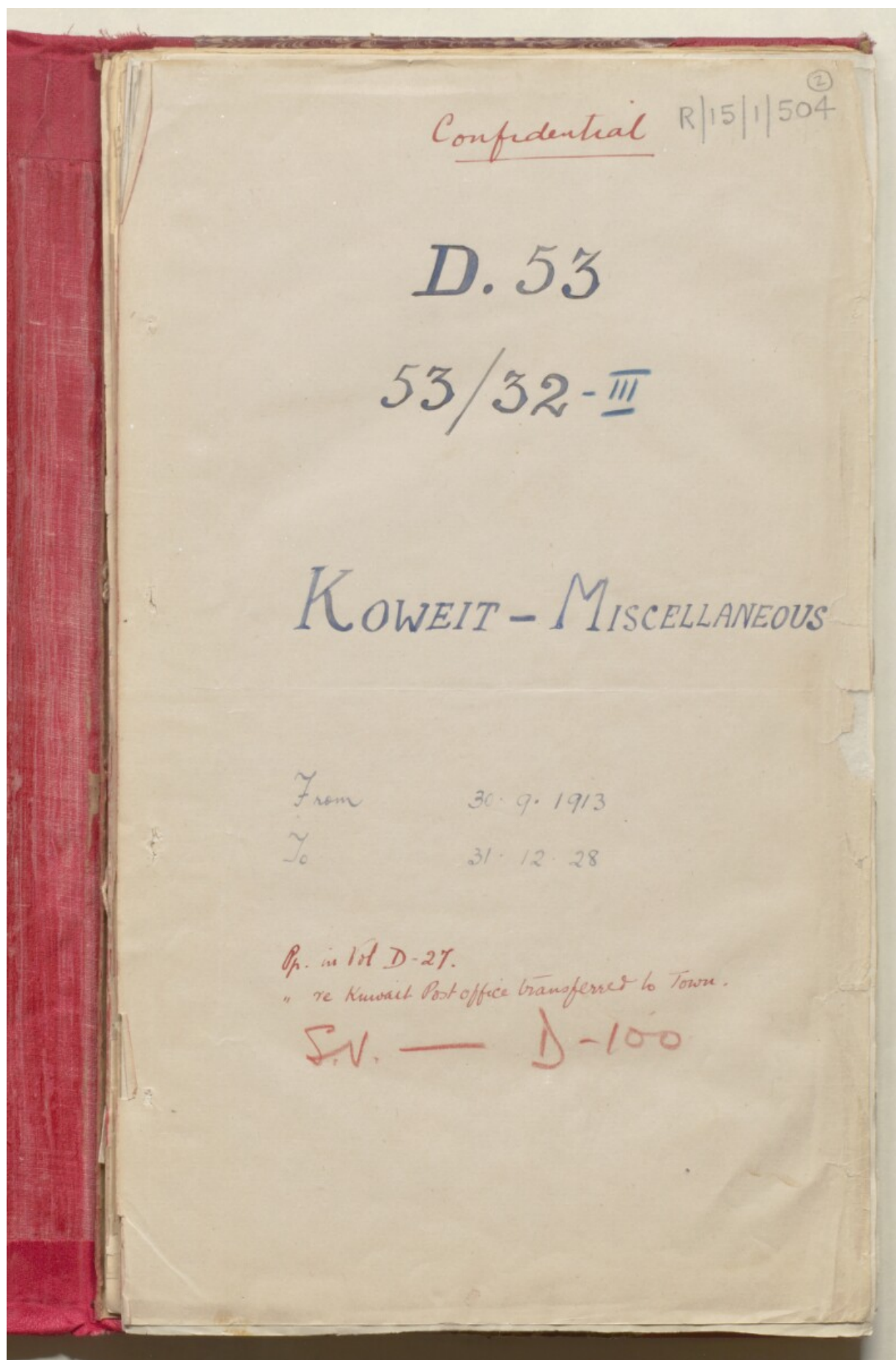


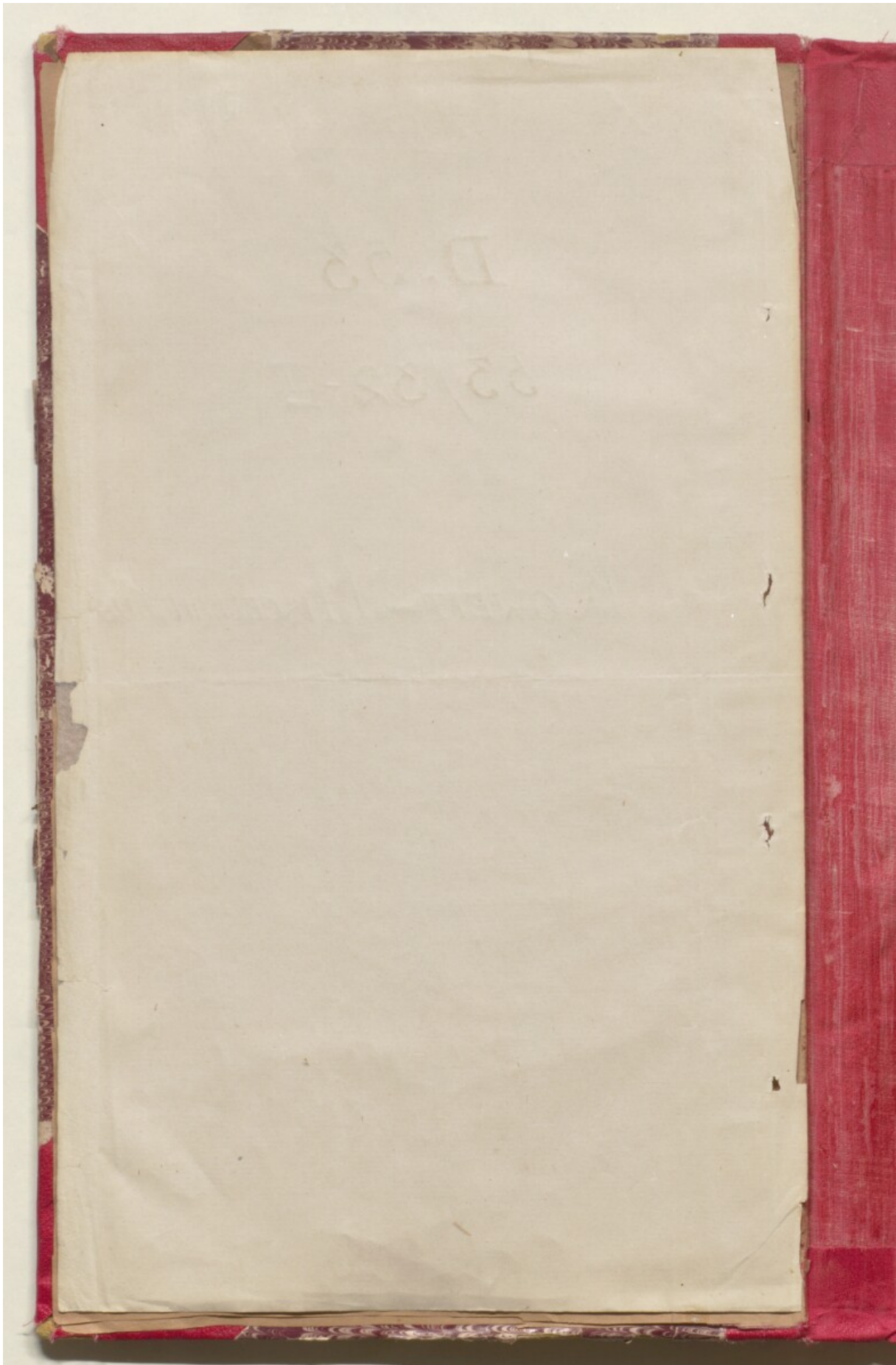


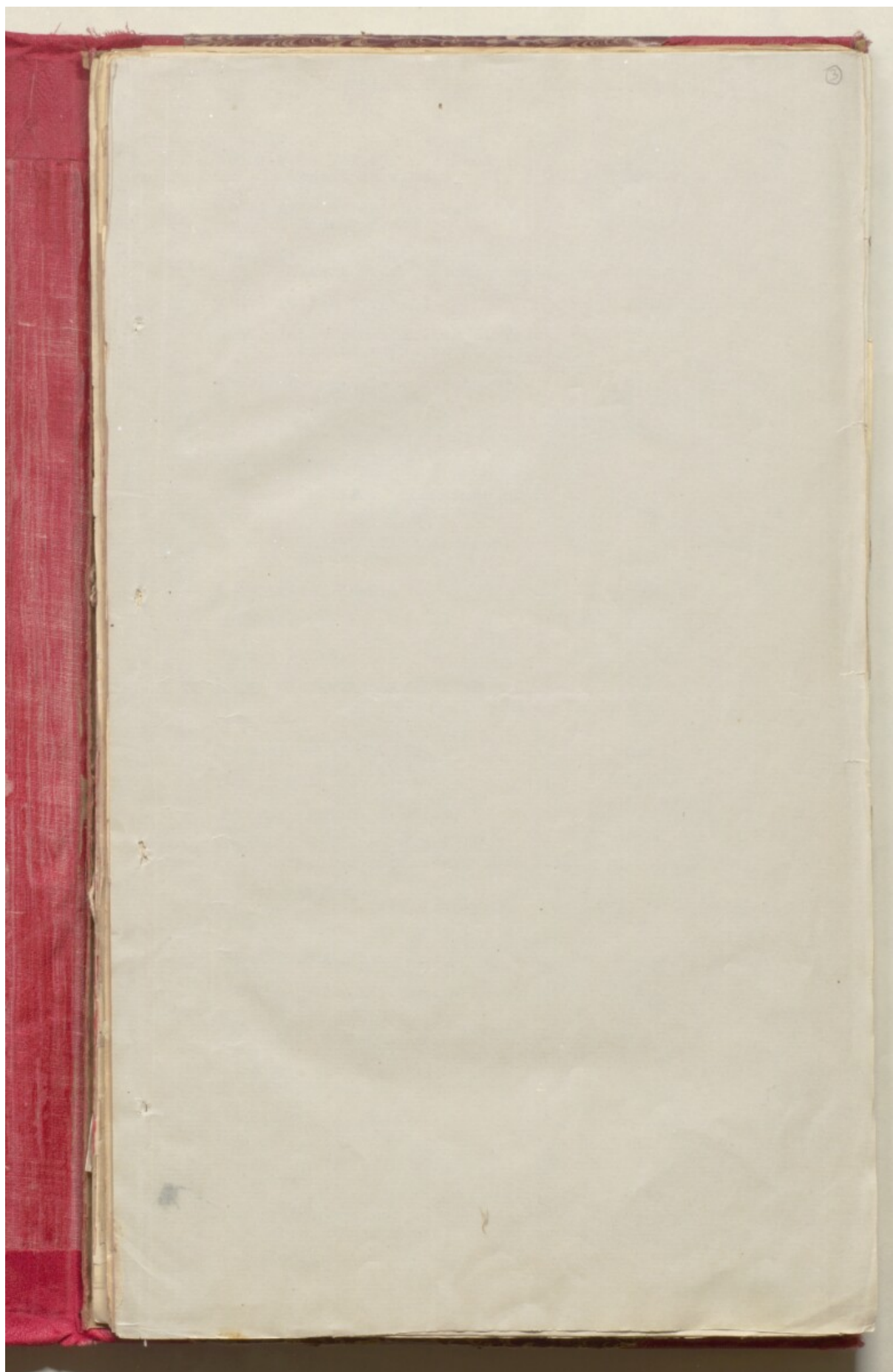


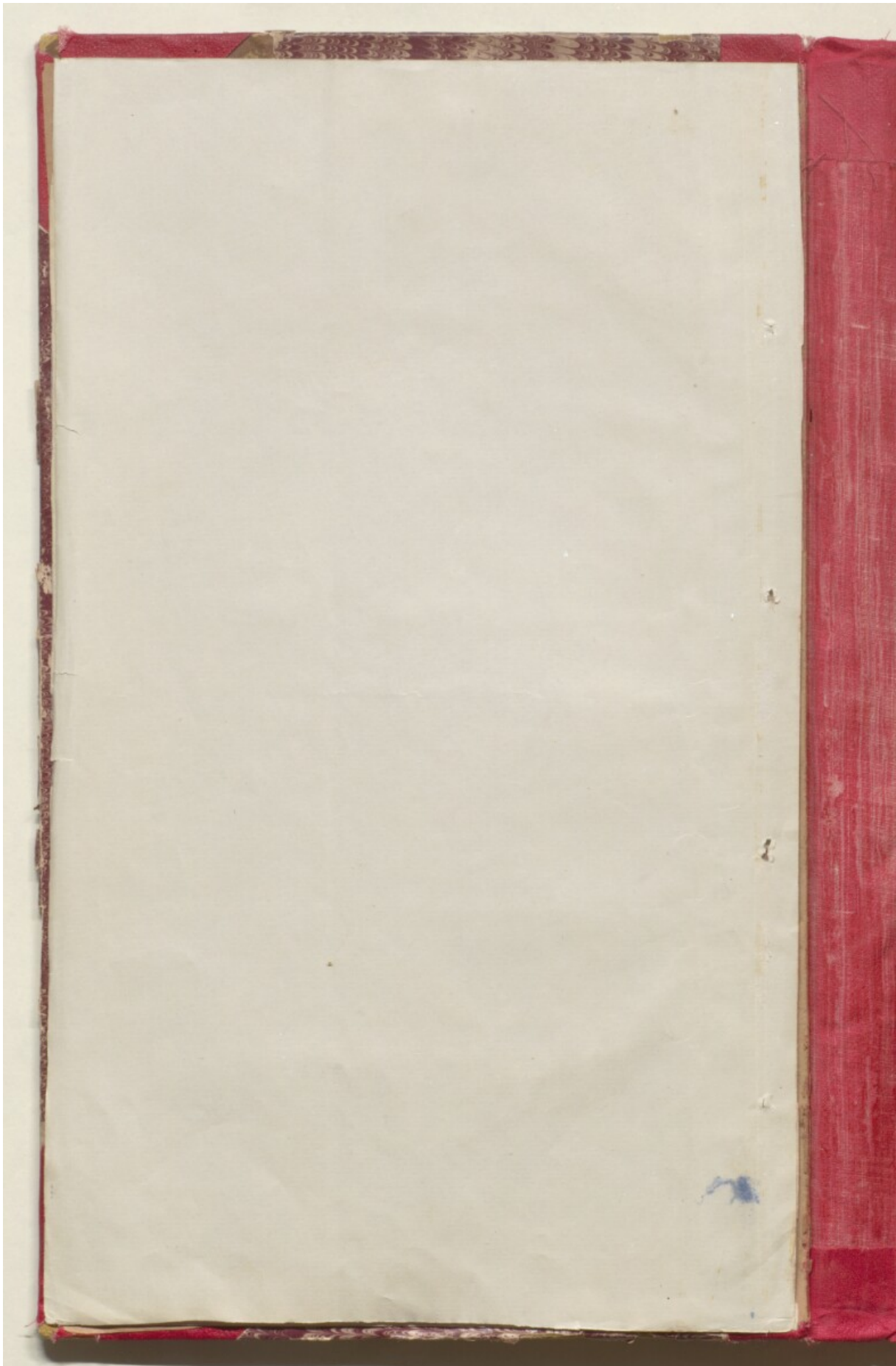








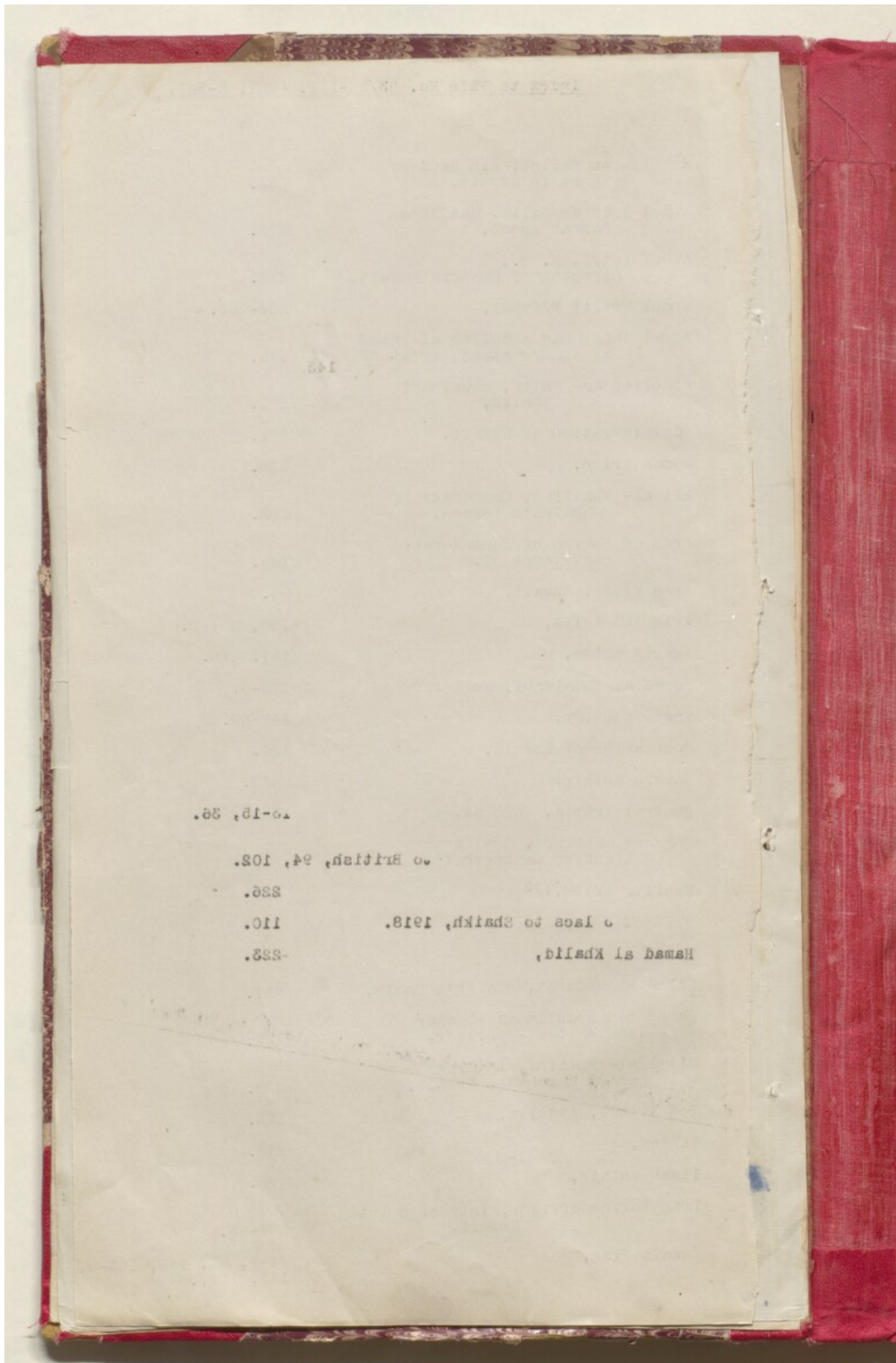






Index to File No. 53/32-III. (Vol: D-53).

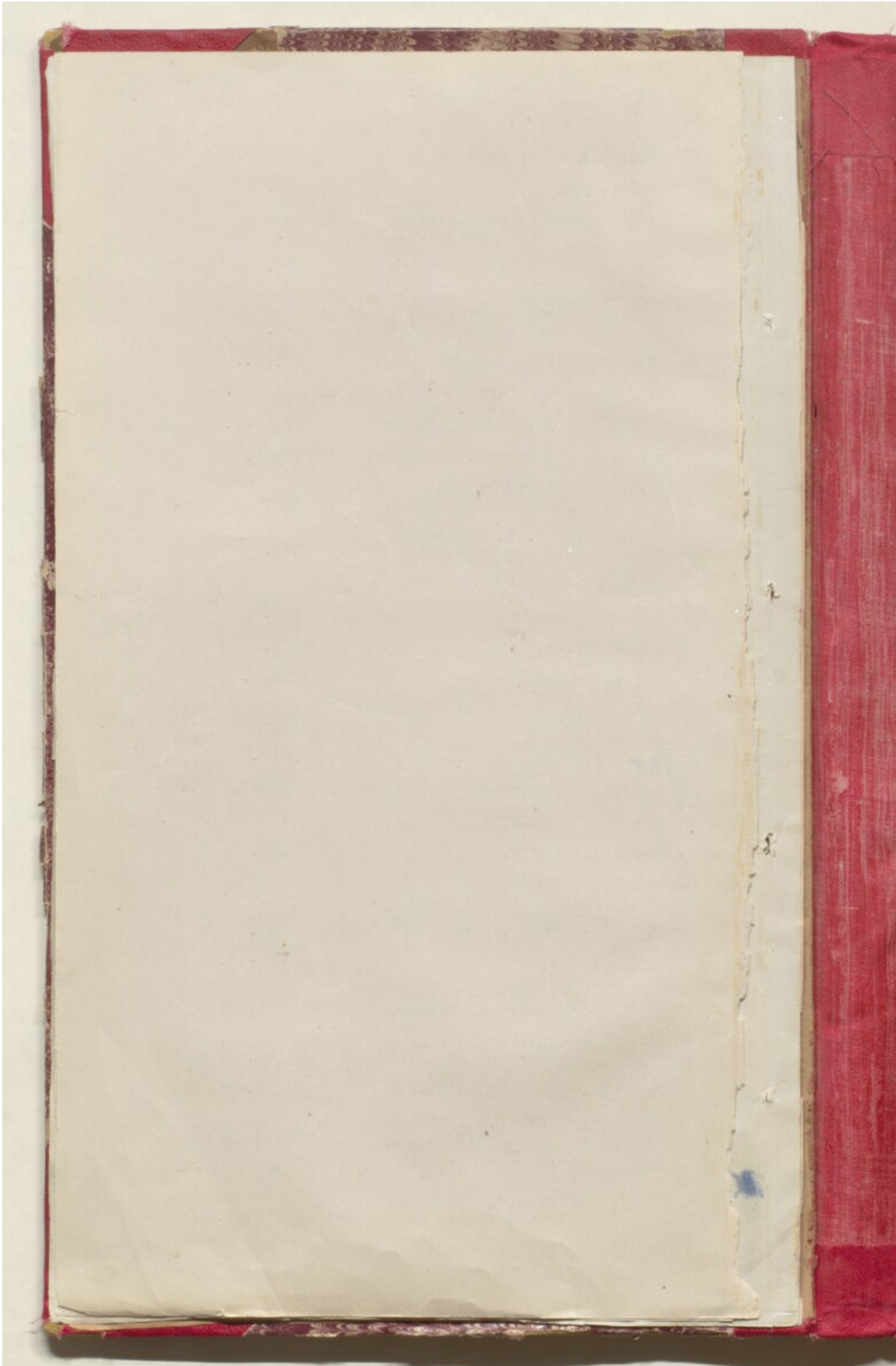
Abdulla al-Nafisi, Bin Saud's Agent in Kuwait,	223.
Abdul Aziz as Salim, Shaikh's Basrah Agent,	222.
Abdul Latif, K. B., Director of Customs Kuwait,	222.
Abdul Mutlib Effendi,	254-263.
Abdul Wahab bin abdullah al Yusuf al Abdur Razzaq, treat ^{of} ,	145.
Abdullah as- Salim, cousin of Shaikh,	221.
Administration of Kuwait,	221.
Ajman tribe,	226.
Ali al- Khalifah, Commander of Shaikh's forces,	222.
Arms of Shaikh of Mohammerah, conveyance of,	166.
Arms Trade, Kuwait,	96.
Artesian Wells,	185, 251-2.
Awazim tribe,	161. 226.
Bajad al Humaidani, Murderer	175-6.
Boat industry,	247-50.
Boundaries of Kuwait,	220.
Buraih Mutair,	225.
Central Arabia, Maps of,	13-15, 36.
Customs, Shaikh's desire to transfer management to British,	94, 102.
Dhaffir tribe,	226.
Gift of 5 lacs to Shaikh, 1918.	110.
Hamad al Khalid,	223.
Hamad al Mubarak, Shaikh's Uncle,	221.
Hamad bin Abdulla as - Saqar leading boat- Builder,	222.
Hilal al- Mutairi, leading pearl merchant, Kuwait,	222.
Ibn Jiluwi, Abdulla,	225.
Ikhwan,	225.
Ilwah Mutair,	225.
Iraq Police officer, intrusion into Kuwait,	254-63.
Kuwait Flag,	74-9, 82, 142, 163-5, 168, 172,.





Page 2.

Kuwait in 1927, note on	219-50.
Kuwait, Map of,	228.
Land in Kuwait, acquisition of by foreigners,	37.
Loan to Shaikh, repayment of,	101.
Mesopotamia-Persia Corporation, proposed appointment of European representative	1-5.
"Mishrif" Steam launch,	177-80.
Missionary Work in the Gulf, request to Sir P. Cox for an article regarding	6, 9-10.
Muhammad abu Ramyah, murderer,	175-6.
Mulla Haridh Wahbah, Bin Saud's employee,	223.
Mulla Saleh K. B. Shaikh's Chief Secretary,	222.
Muntafiq tribe, (Yusuf Sadun Shaikh of,	189, 194, 202-4, 208-A-9 226.
Mutair Tribe,	225.
Oil in Kuwait,	251-2.
"Nearchus", desire of Shaikh to purchase	147-9, 152-156, 160.
Pearl fishing,	224.
Persian representation at Kuwait,	143-4, 186.
Railway to Kuwait,	150-2, 157-9.
Rashaidih tribe,	226.
Red Cross Funds, Shaikh's donation to,	84.
Salman al Hamud, nephew of Shaikh,	222.
Saad al Din,	215-18.
Saiyid Hamid Beyan-Naqib notable of Kuwait,	222.
Salute to Shaikh's son as representative,	107.
Schools,	223.
Shaikh of Kuwait, discontent against,	199-a, 199-b.
Shaikh of Kuwait, Family name,	200, 205-7.
Shaikh of Kuwait, Proposed visit to Iraq,	210, 14.
Shaikh of Kuwait's style of address,	62, 65-7, 69-73.

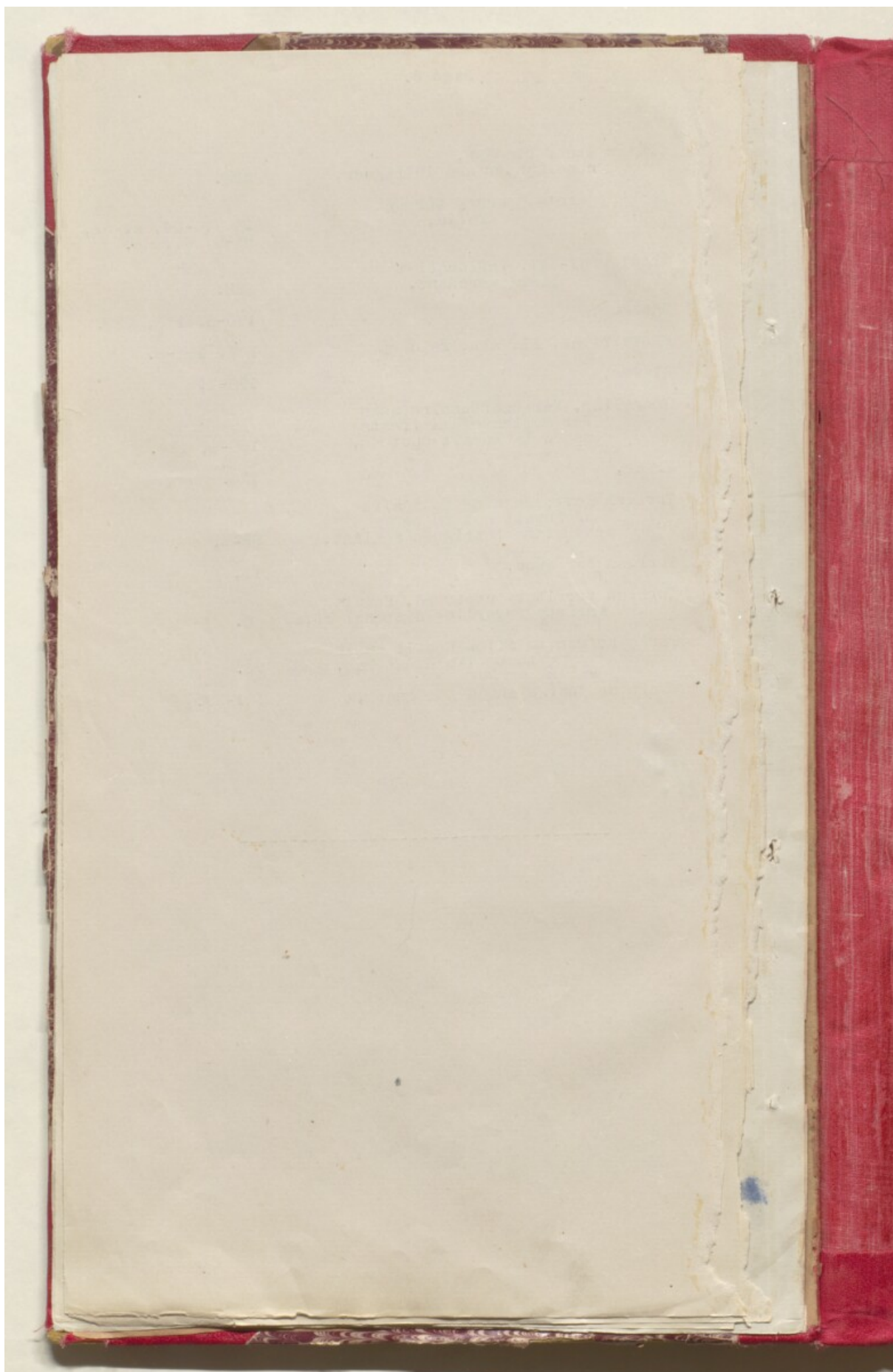


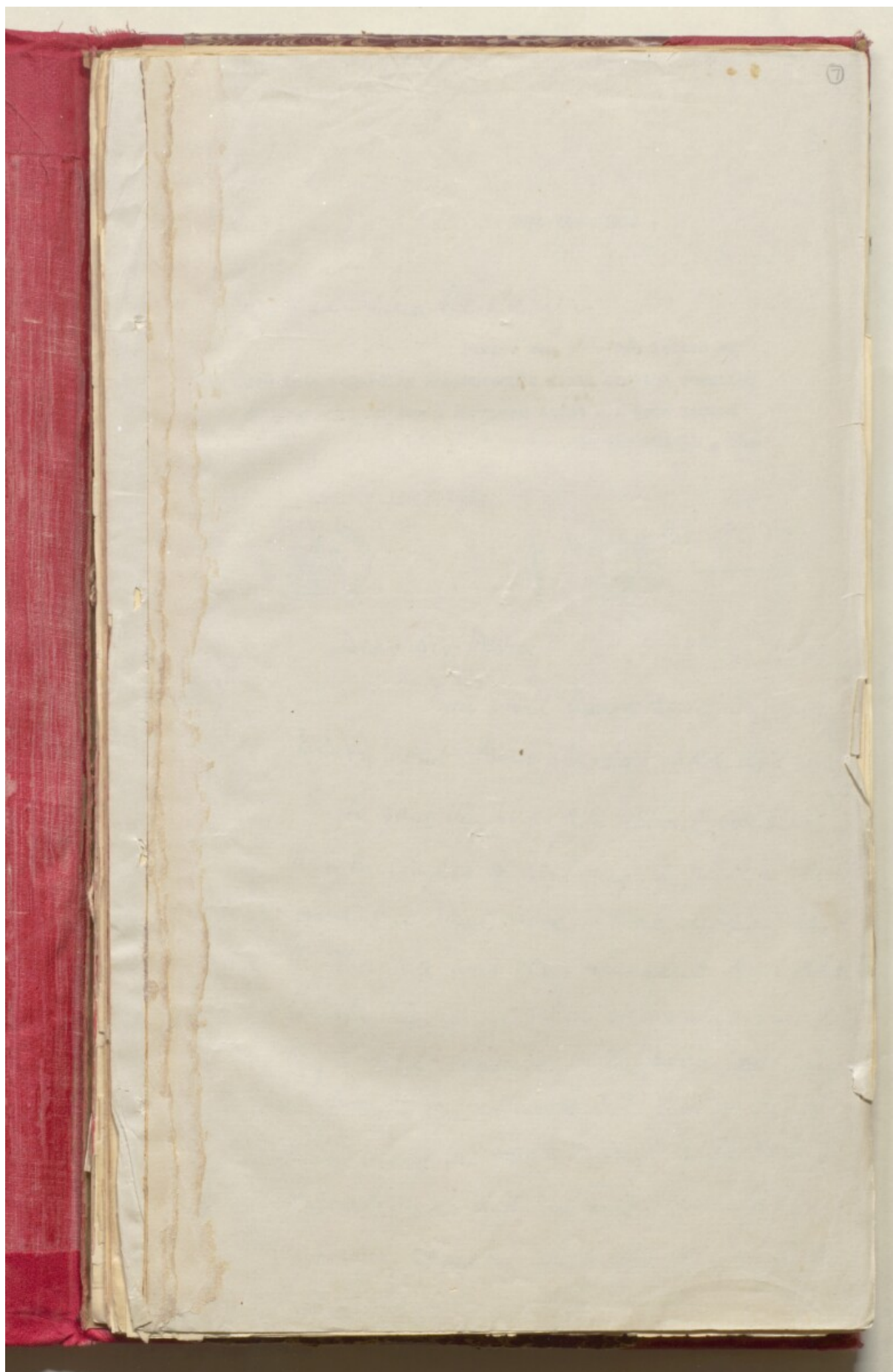


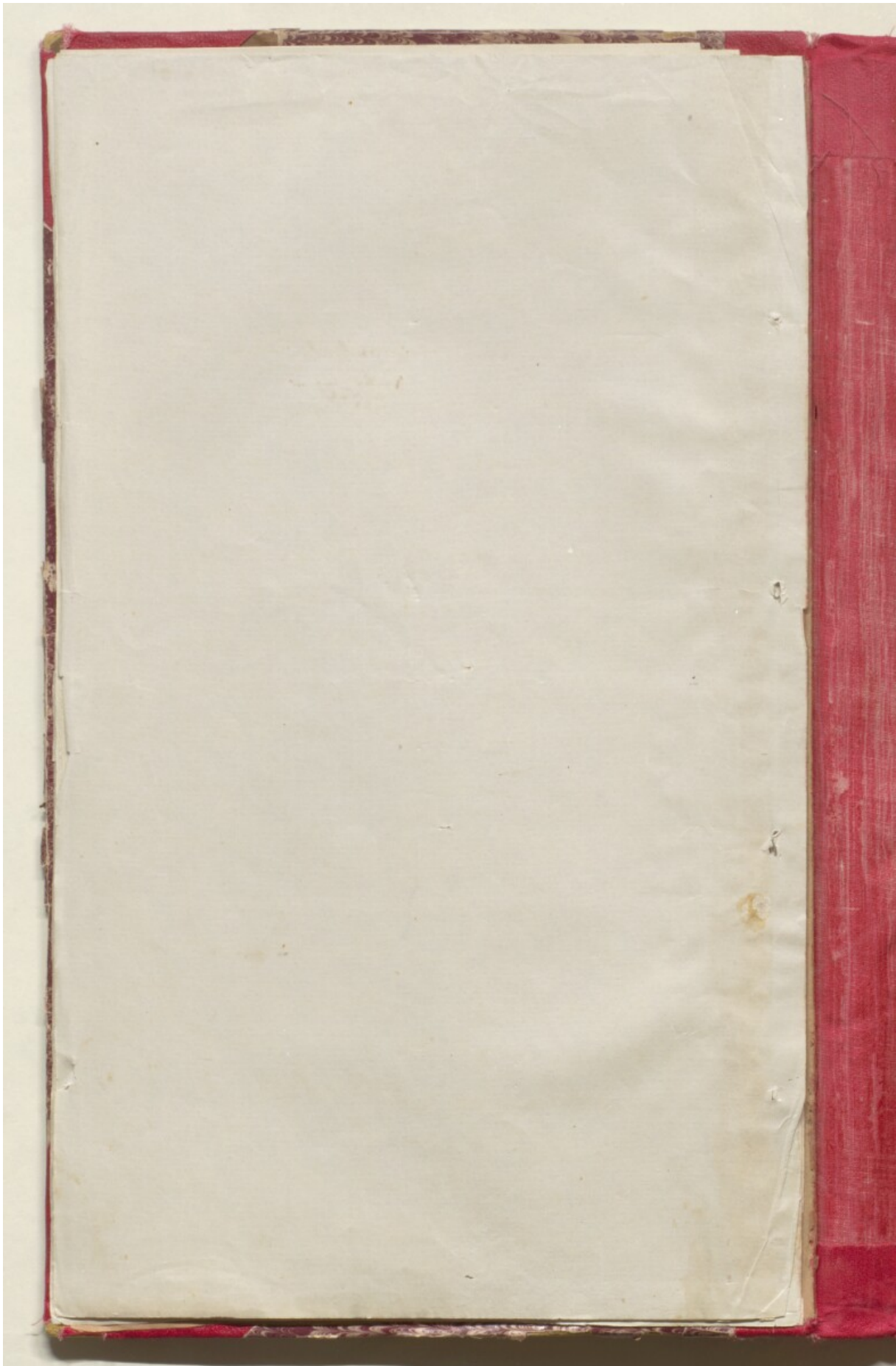
Page 3.

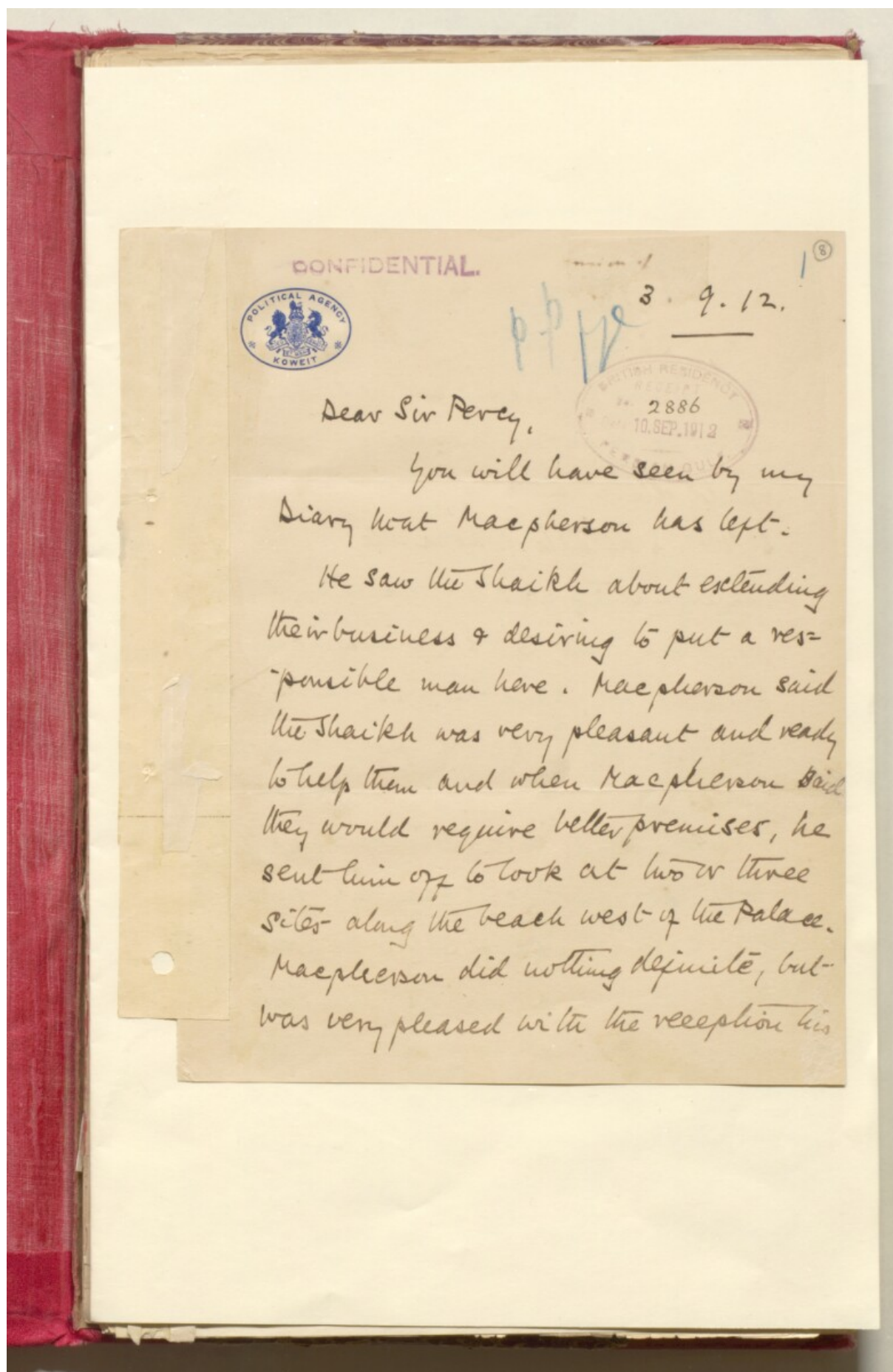
Shaikh Yusuf bin Isa, schoolmaster and intriguer,	223.
Shakespeare's journey through Arabia,	12, 16-34, 41-52, 58-9, 61, 64.
Shamlan al- Ali influential pearl merchant,	222.
Shammar,	195-6, 198, 227.
Shuwairibat, Ali abu, raid by	187, 192-3.
Slaves,	190-1,
Smuggling, KarguzarBushire asks for copies of manifests issued by Kuwait Customs,	180-a, 184.
Trade,	224.
Turkish Govt: Warning to Shaikh of Kuwait not to be drawn into intrigues against,	53-7, 60.
Turkish War Fund,	11,
Turkish territory captured, Kuwait anxiety regarding disposal of,	80.
Turks refuse to allow Kuwait mails to be landed at Fao,	73.
Visit of Shaikh Ahmad to London,	121-39.

jc











project got from the Shaikh.

Later I saw the Sheikh and talking about Macpherson he said either he or another member of the firm would return in a month or later to settle up details if possible. Without my prompting at all the Sheikh went on to say that G. P.'s business had grown a lot and he was ready to help them all he could for old times' sake.

I then said "but the Germans will begin at you again & say that now you have allowed a salute for Gray Paul, why not permit us". The Shaikh laughed & said no doubt they would



29

but- he would tell them as before, that
they had better refer their request first
to the Resident or P.A; that anyhow
Gray Paul had been years in Kuwait,
were old friends of his, & as their busi-
-ness grew they naturally wanted to
put a more responsible man here.
I left it at that as being all that
we really required.

I have been all through my files
but can find nothing except your
suggestion to Foreign, in your telegram
No 395 d/30th April 1911 under (11), which
need hamper the Shaikh. And that
suggestion I never communicated to
the Shaikh, as Govt did not require
it, vide my letter No C-36 d/14 June 1911.

1208
53/11
32



This is what I thought at Rushmore,
but I couldn't be certain without a
look at ~~my~~ ^{my} files.

Yours sincerely
W. H. Shakespeare



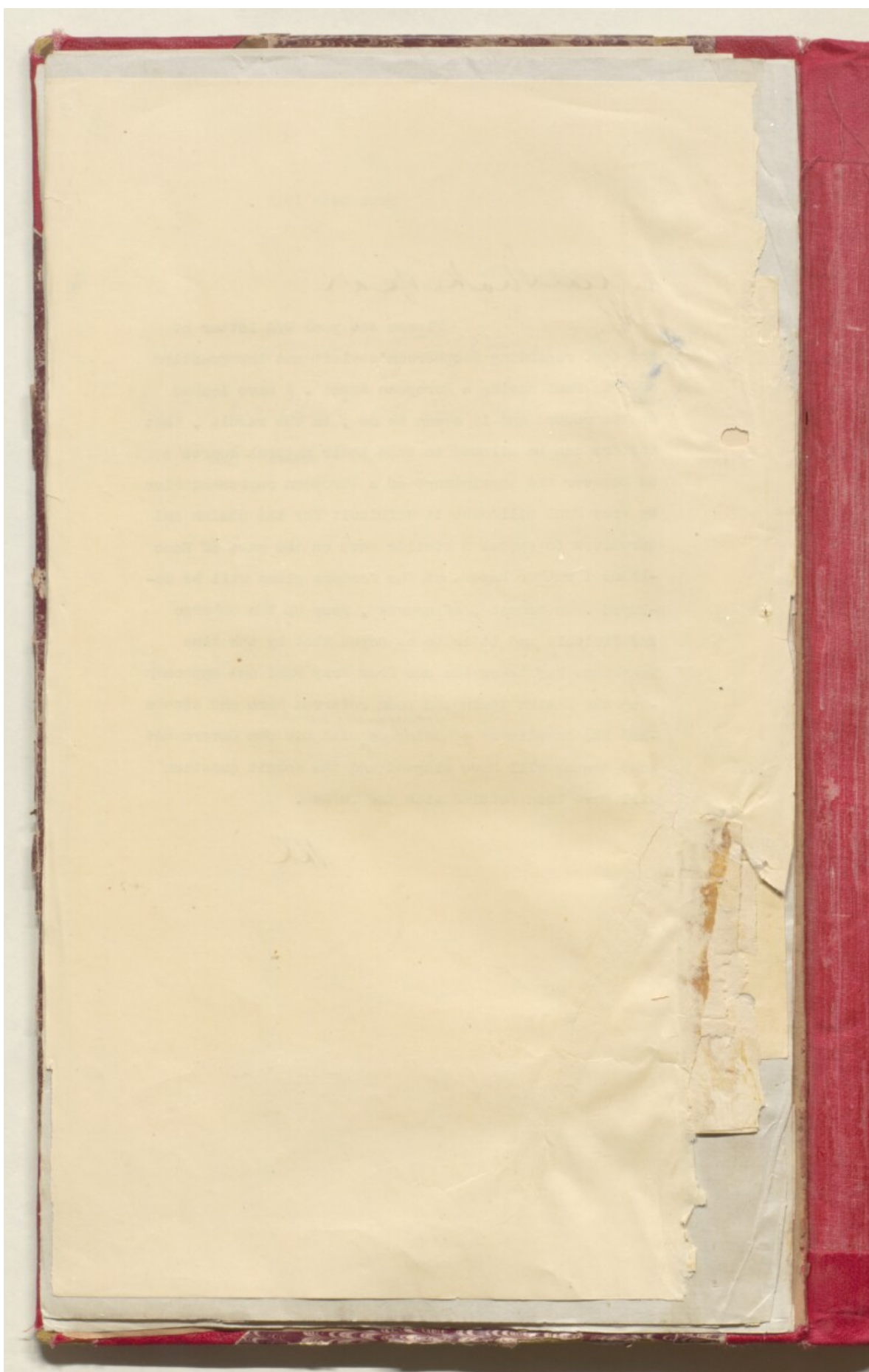
3 (10)
Sept 24th 1912 .

Mr. Shakespeare.

53 II
39
14

Please see your D/O letter of 3rd inst regarding Macpherson's visit and the question of Gray Paul having a European Agent . I have looked up the record and it seems to me , in the result , that matters can be allowed to take their natural course ; as however the appointment of a European representative by Gray Paul will make it difficult for the Shaikh and ourselves to oppose a similar move on the part of Wonekhaus I rather hope that the formers plans will be delayed . We cannot , of course , keep up the embargo indefinitely and it is to be hoped that by the time Wonekhaus has taken the cue from Gray Paul and approached the Shaikh again and been referred here and discussed the expediency of doing so ^(in referring here) with his own Government some months will have elapsed and the Koweit question will have been settled with the Turks .

HC





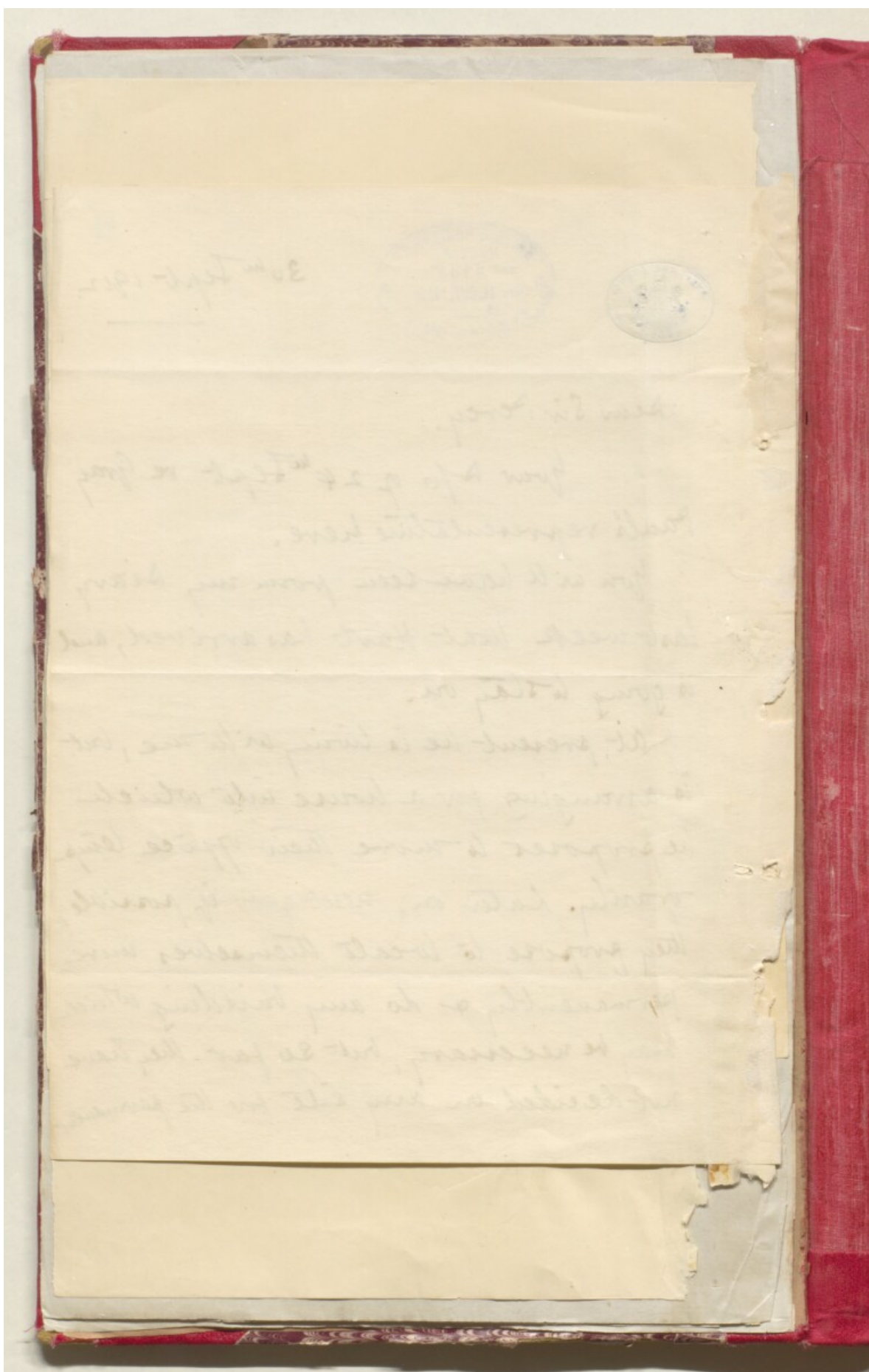
4
30th Sept-1912

Dear Sir Percy.

Your A/c of 24th Sept re Gray
Paul's representative here.

You will have seen from my diary
last week that Hart has arrived, and
is going to stay on.

At present he is living with me, but
is arranging for a house into which
he proposes to move their office temp-
orarily. Later on, next year if possible,
they propose to locate themselves more
permanently & do any building which
may be necessary, but so far they have
not decided on any site for the permanent.





2/



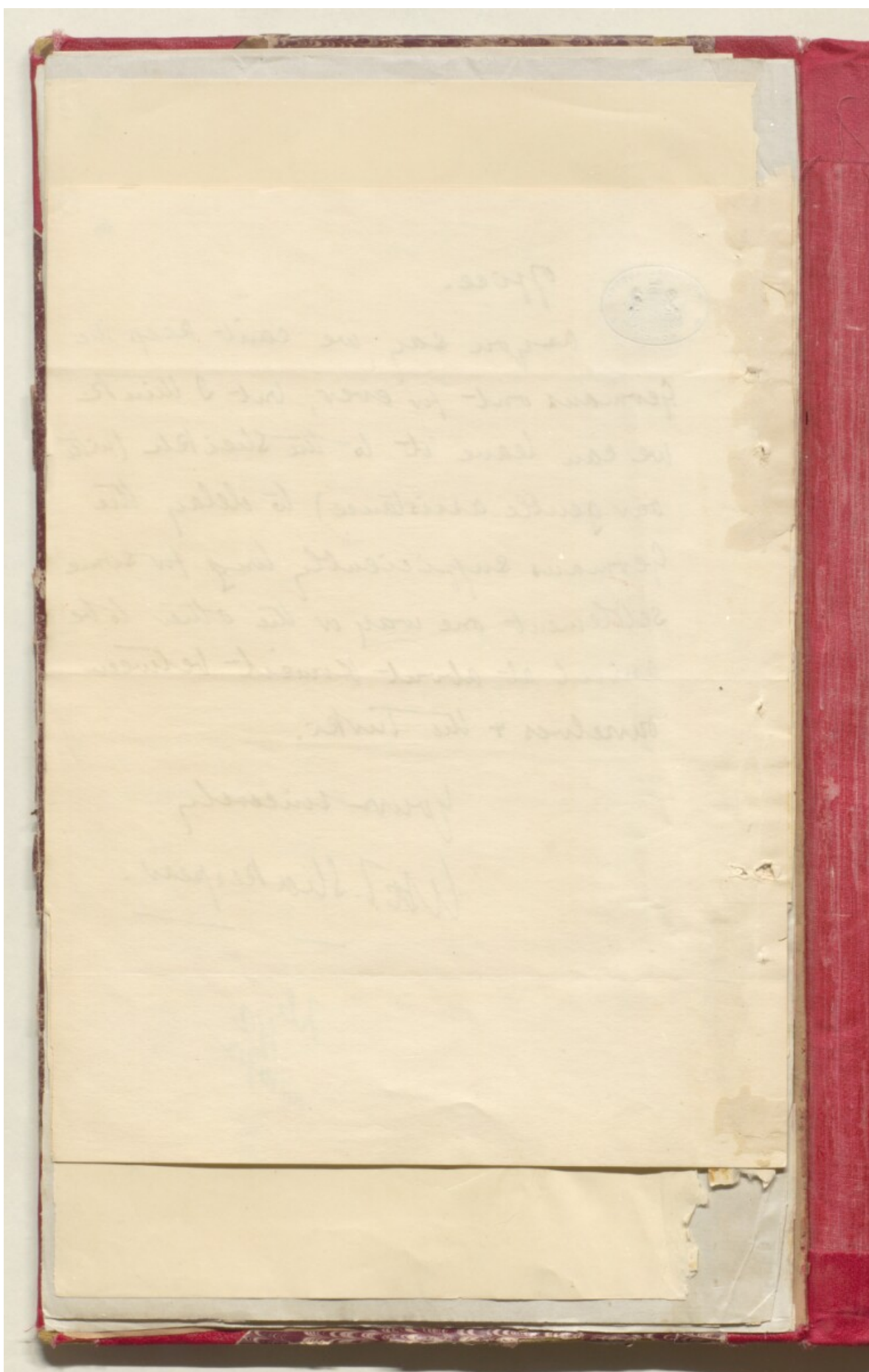
Office.

as you say, we can't keep the Germans out for ever, but I think we can leave it to the Sheikh (with our gentle assistance) to delay the Germans sufficiently long for some settlement one way or the other to be arrived at about Kowait between ourselves & the Turks.

Yours sincerely

W. H. Shakespeare.

File
14/10/12

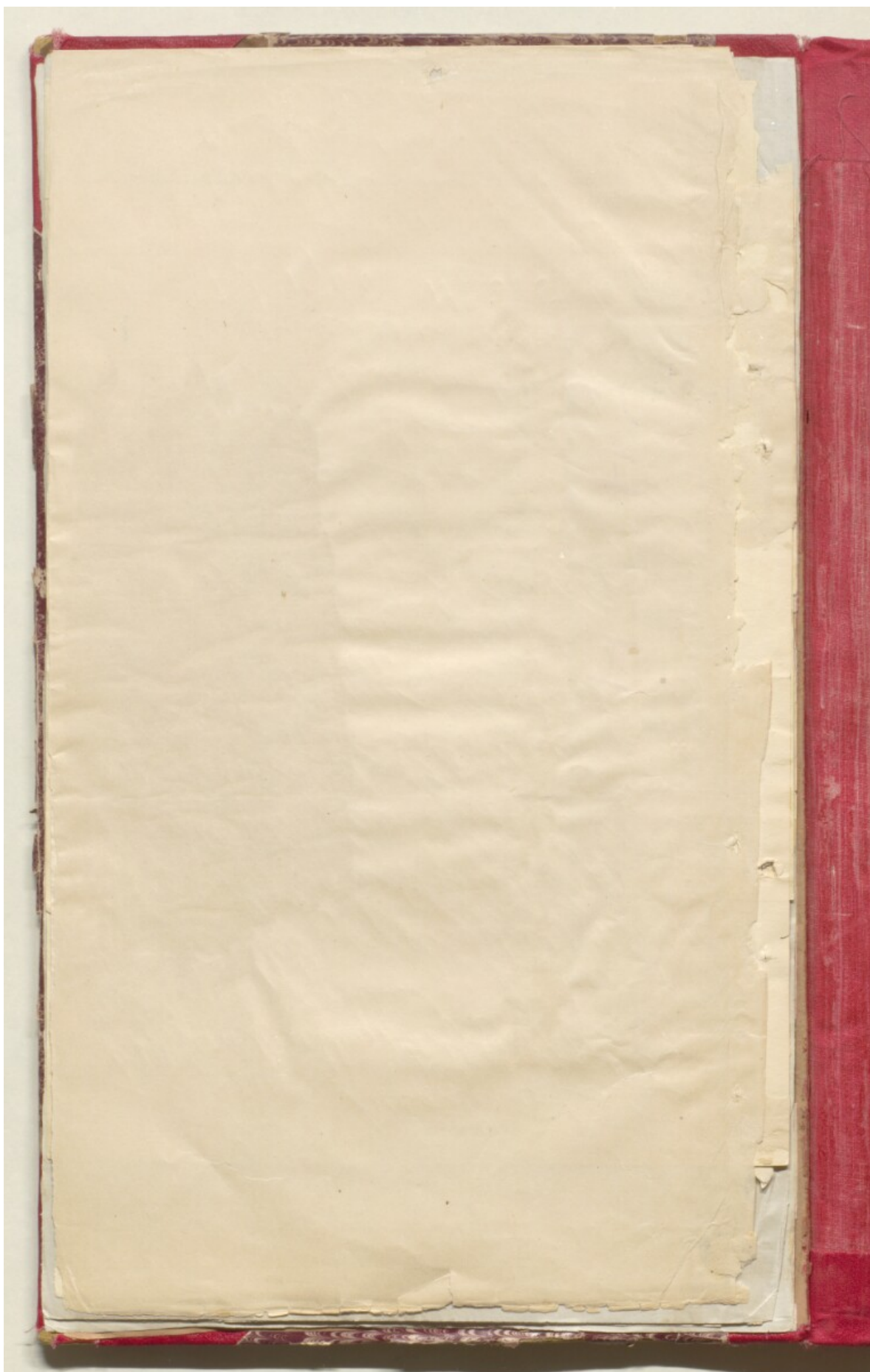




Dear Sir:-The official organ of our Mission is in my hands as editor, this year, and I write to ask you whether you are willing to give us the benefit of your opinion of Missionary work in the Far East, heading as "The Value of Missionary Work in the Far East". If you can see your way clear to do so, it will be greatly appreciated. The article ought not to exceed 1500 words, in length, and to be in my hands within three months.

We are hoping to have a new hospital to build next year, during this coming year, sometime. May I ask whether, if the time can be suitably arranged, we may hope to have you here to participate in the exercise, together with Sheikh Mohammed, Dr. Gentile and Dr. Bennett. Your acceptance will be a very much appreciated favor. I assure you.

With best wishes, believe me,
Yours sincerely,
P. W. Harrison





CONFIDENTIAL.



2nd January 1913.

My dear Wilson,

Many thanks for yours of the 24th Dec with the particulars of the attempt on the Viceroy. What swine these Bengalis (I expect it was either a Bengali or a Mahratta) are.

Mubarak turned up yesterday from Pao, and I saw him this afternoon. He said he had heard of the outrage at Mohamurah / apparently from Haworth. I had to prompt him a bit but he was quite keen to send a message and I drafted him one which he, in all the glory of a Baghdadi clerk who knows English, said he would like to send himself, so I suggested their sending it off to Bushire by to-morrow's mail and getting it booked thence.

The Sheikh agreed and kept my draft, so I am rather interested to see whether any message is really sent and if so, whether the wording is altered at all. My message, speaking from memory was thus :--

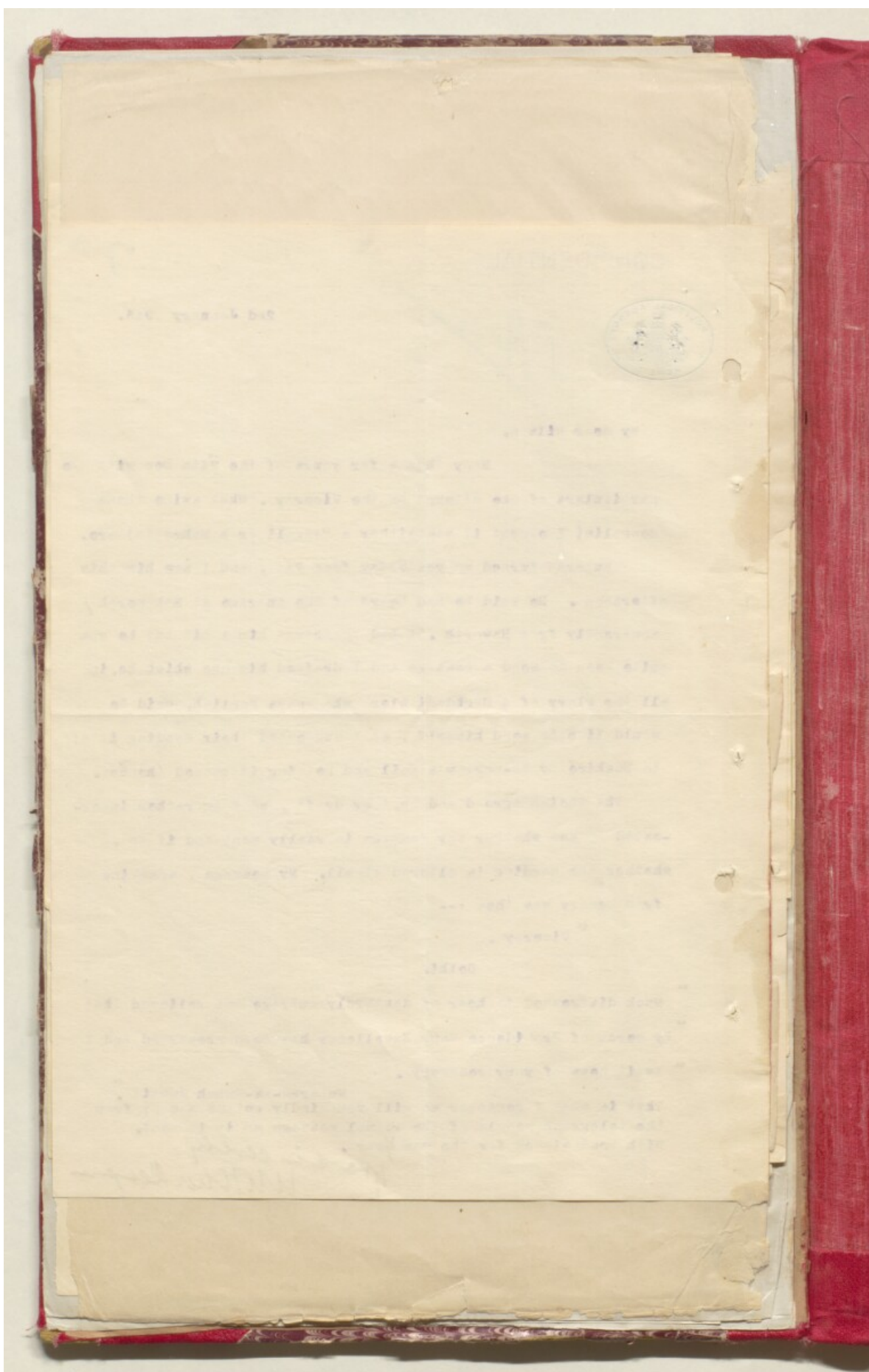
" Viceroy,

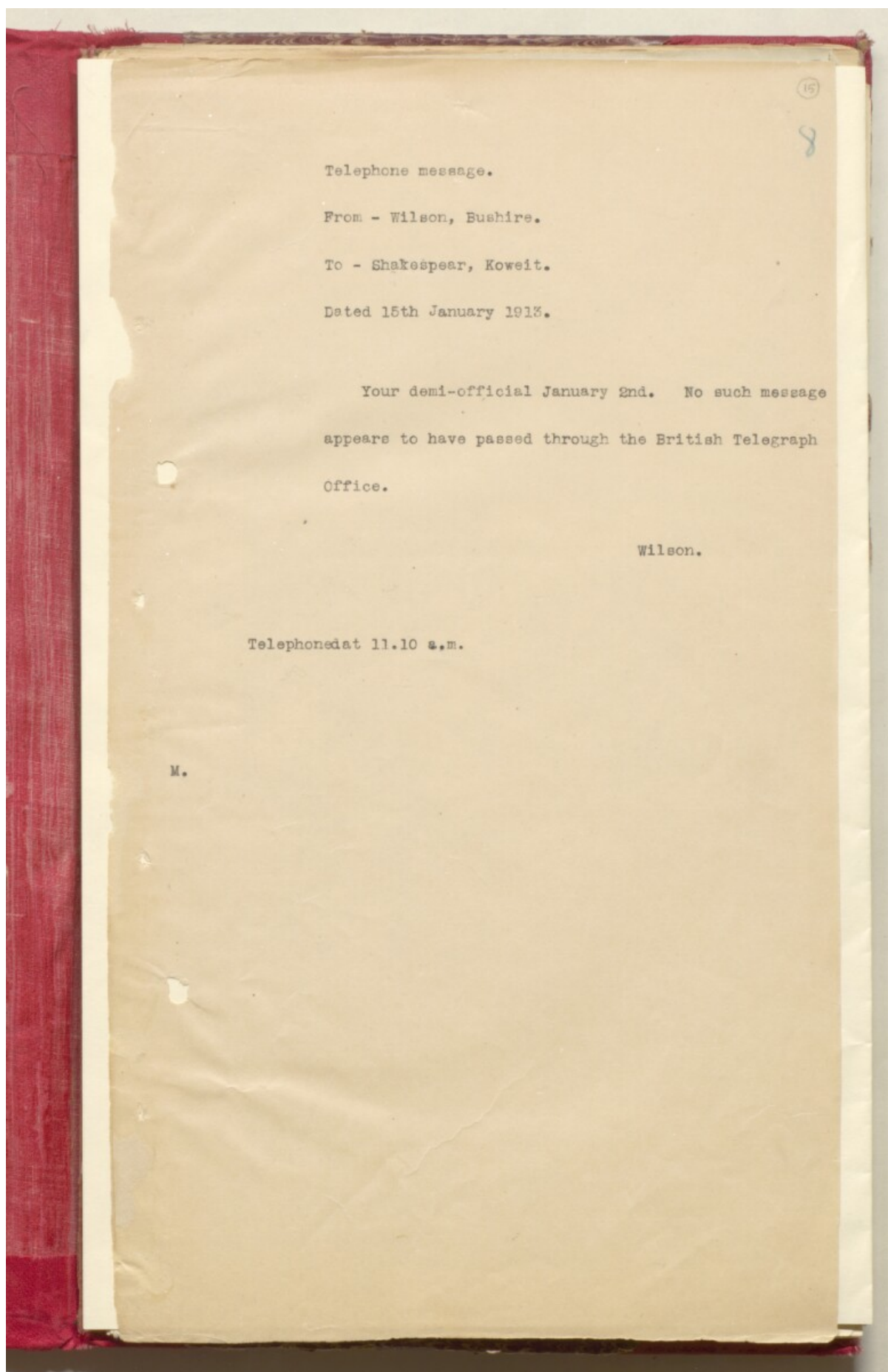
Delhi.

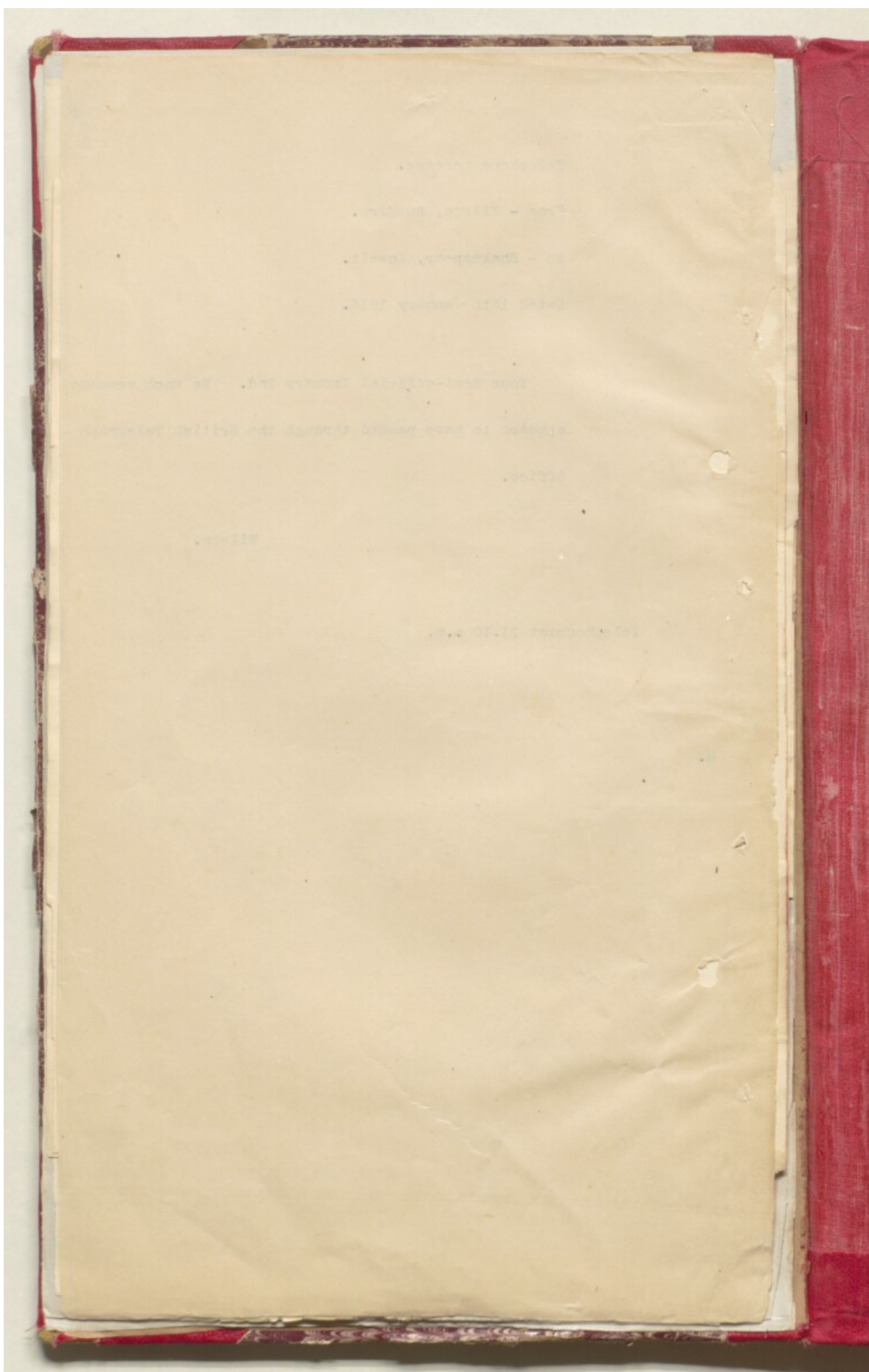
" Much distressed to hear of dastardly outrage but relieved that
" by mercy of Providence Your Excellency has been preserved and I
" await news of your recovery.

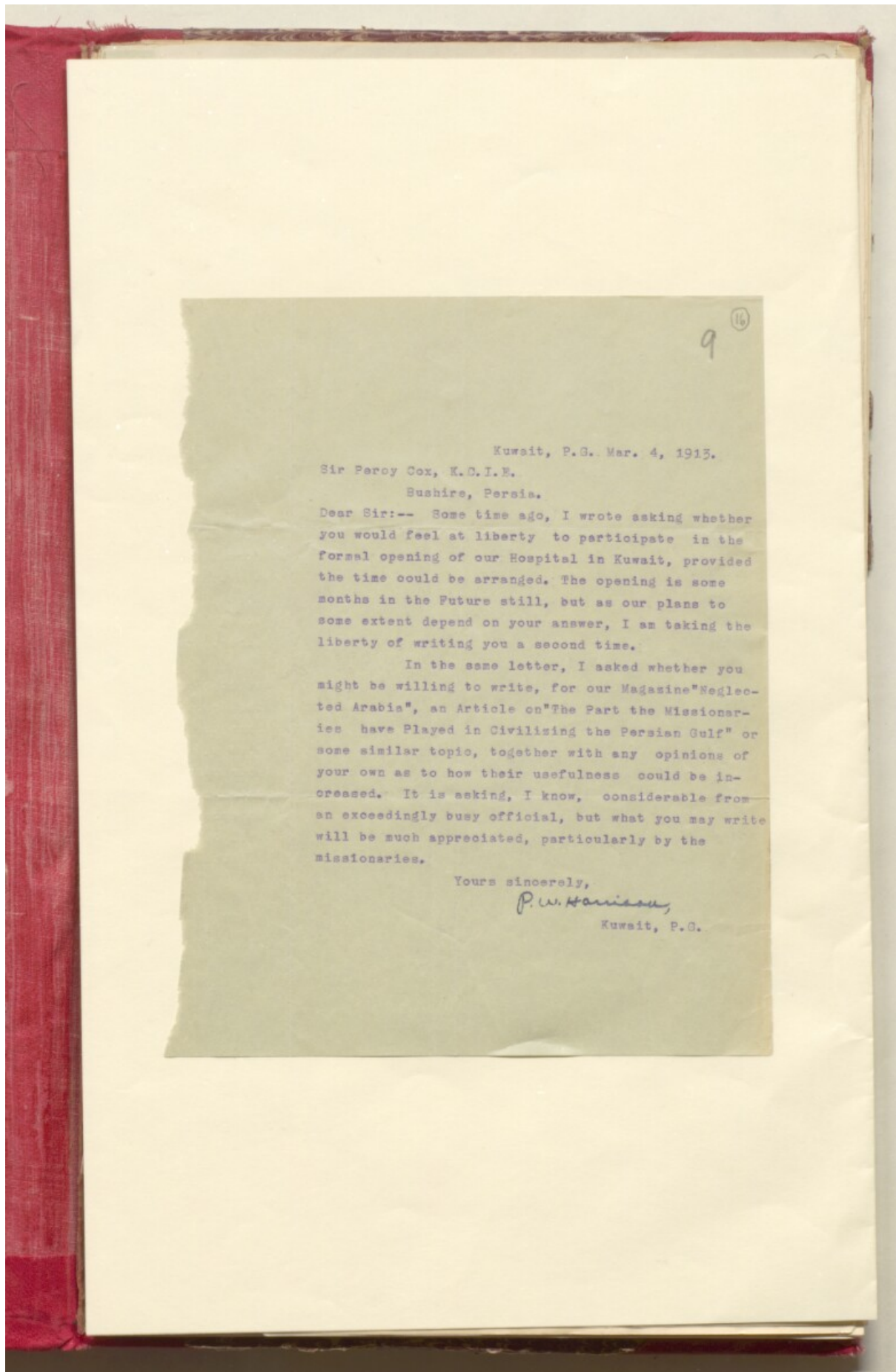
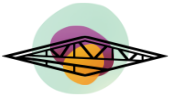
Mubarak-as-Sabah Kuwait.
That is what I remember so will you kindly get me a copy from the telegraph people of the actual message as it is sent.
With best wishes for the New Year.

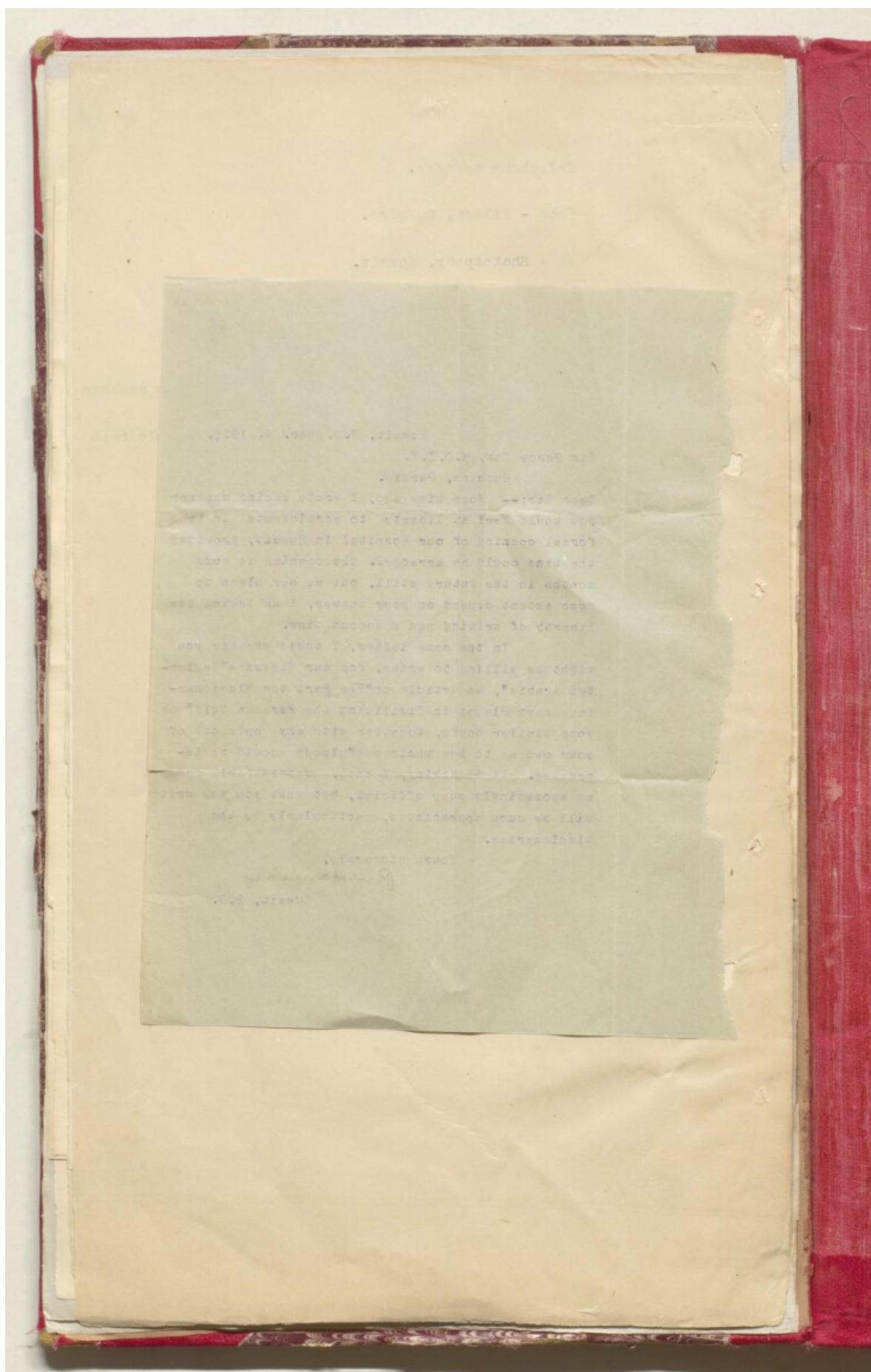
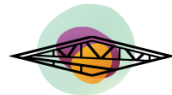
*Yrs sincerely,
W. H. Charlesworth*

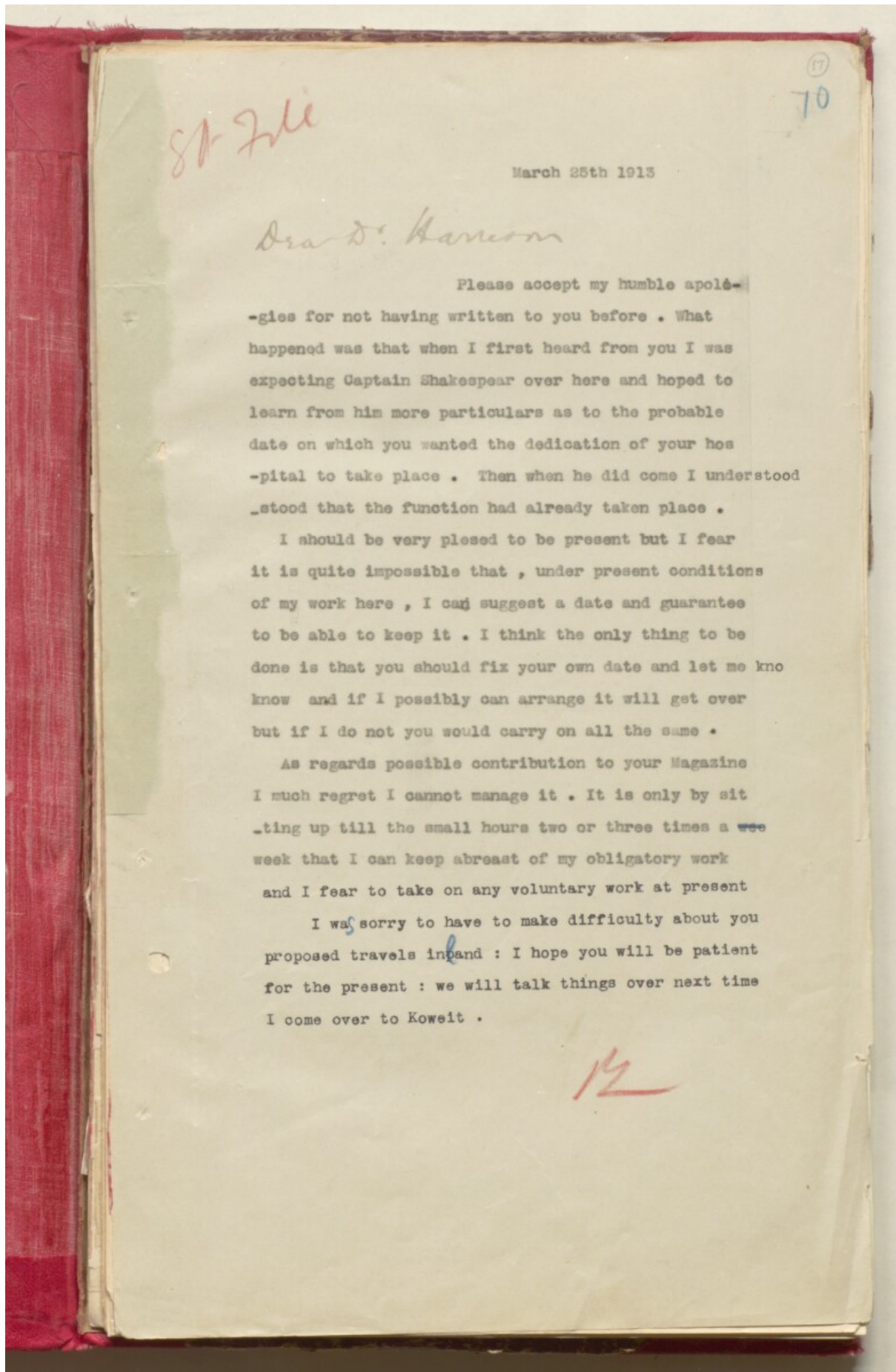
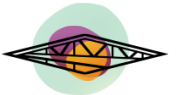












March 25th 1913

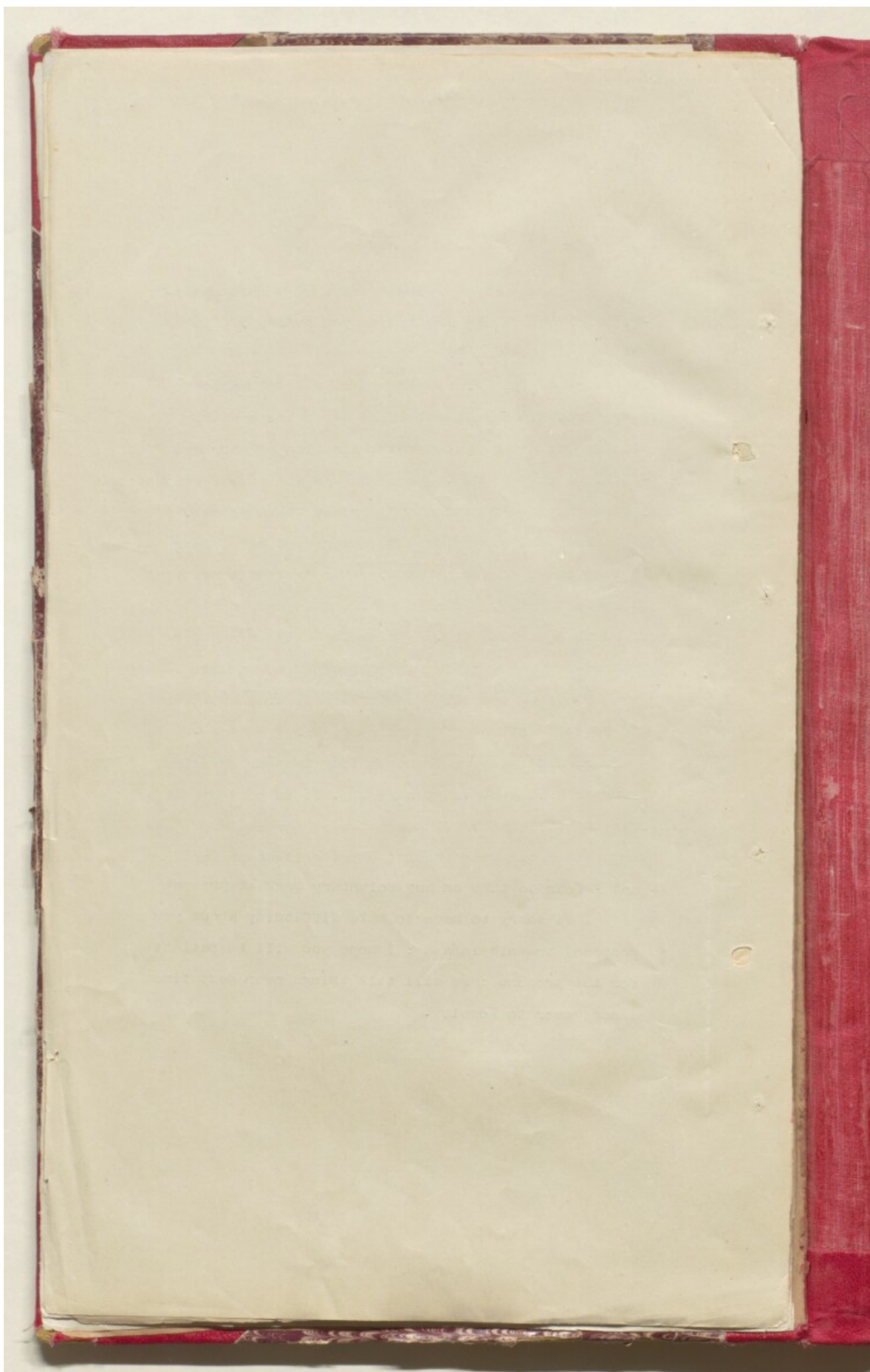
Dear Dr. Hanson

Please accept my humble apologies for not having written to you before . What happened was that when I first heard from you I was expecting Captain Shakespear over here and hoped to learn from him more particulars as to the probable date on which you wanted the dedication of your hospital to take place . Then when he did come I understood that the function had already taken place .

I should be very pleased to be present but I fear it is quite impossible that , under present conditions of my work here , I can suggest a date and guarantee to be able to keep it . I think the only thing to be done is that you should fix your own date and let me know and if I possibly can arrange it will get over but if I do not you would carry on all the same .

As regards possible contribution to your Magazine I much regret I cannot manage it . It is only by sitting up till the small hours two or three times a week that I can keep abreast of my obligatory work and I fear to take on any voluntary work at present

I was sorry to have to make difficulty about your proposed travels in ^{land} : I hope you will be patient for the present : we will talk things over next time I come over to Koweit .



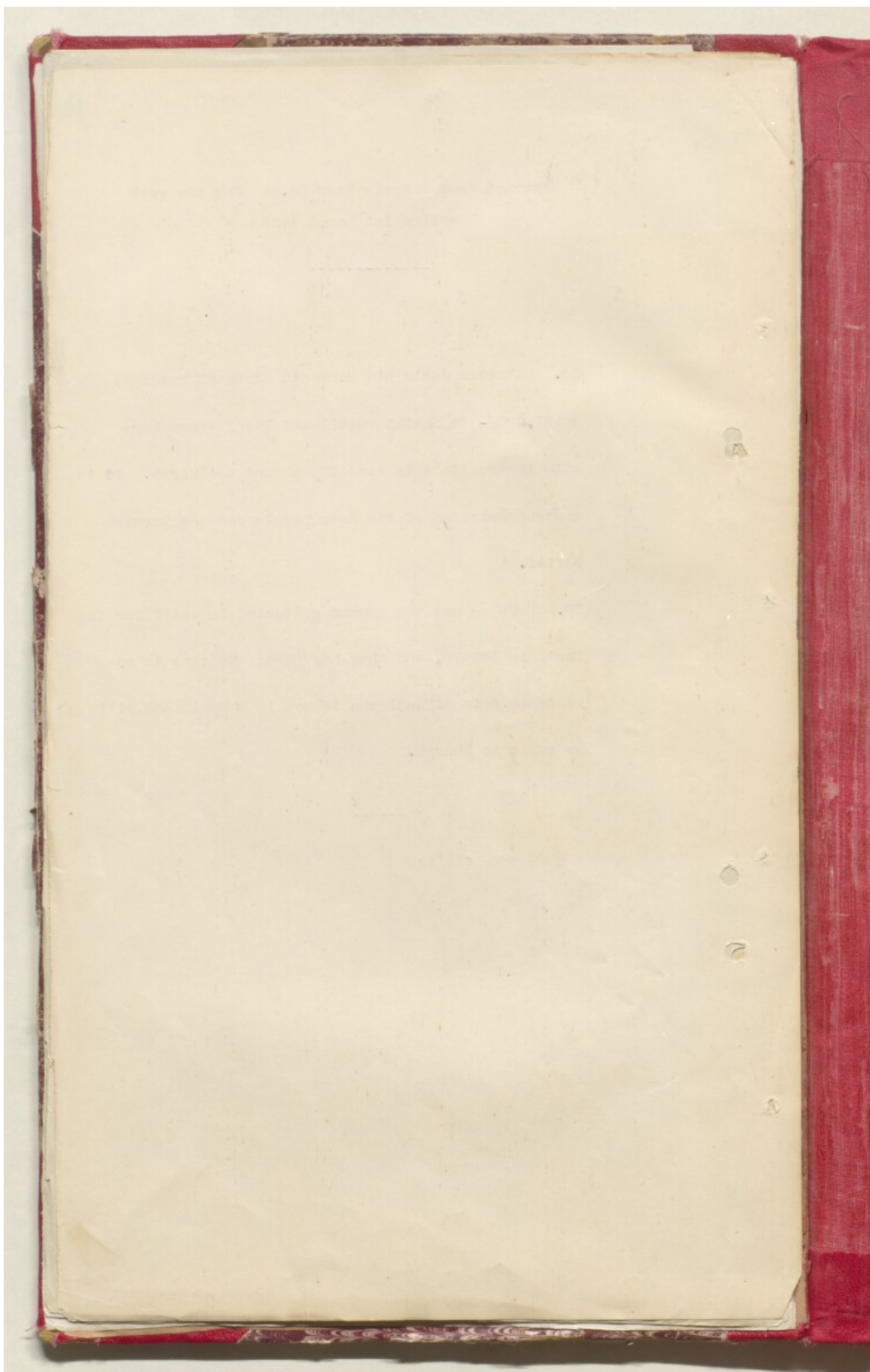
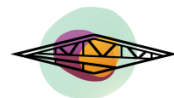


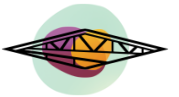
18
11

Extract from Bahrein News No. 8 for the week
ending 1st March 1913

52. Sheikh Jasim bin Muhammad Al Thani has sent
Rs 25,000/- to Sheikh Mugbil and Yusuf Kanoo here
with instructions to send the amount to Busreh. It is
the subscription of the Katr people for the Turkish
relief.

53. Up to now the amount collected in Katif for the
Turks is 800 TS, and they have sent the same to one
Muhammad Amin Effendi who is now in Bahrein and will
be going to Busreh.



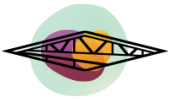


Wiley here Camp XV at Najma'a
302 miles S.W.
55 III
32 15 25-3-13
R

Dear Sir Percy,

I have got this far on
my tour successfully barring
an occasional alarm from
stray Bedouin.

Abdulla bin Askar, the local
Amir here was as friendly &
pleasant as could be. I had
met him with Bin Saud before
& he had also visited me in Kuwait.
The place is quite a decent sized



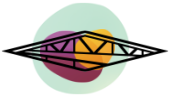
little town, with date-
gardens all round, the
green of which it was a real
change to see.

The "Dahana" ridge was weary
work to cross but is a of a most
curious formation, very loose
soft-sand with waves & ripples
on it exactly like the sea and
the sand all a curious red-brown
orange colour. Down here it
is stony & rather bad going for
camels' soft feet. All the same
I believe I could have done the

whole distance easily in a motor-
car! ⁽²⁰⁾

Bir Sand is three days away to
the S.E. in khafs & I am marching
for his camp to-morrow.

The climate here is ripping;
it must be a good deal higher
than one thinks, but my aneroid
^{I know} is hopelessly bad, giving 3600' ^{where}
the boiling pt. thermometer gives about
1800'. I shall have a lot to add to
the map of these parts, though it
is extraordinary how close Huntley's
map gives these places. The same
last year is the only European before

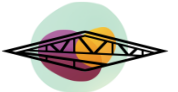


me to visit Majma'a. The people
are worse Wahabis than the Riadh
people, so Bin Askar tells me &
he ought to know! He led me about
by the hand, like Bengali baboos
go about & it must have looked comic
with him in Arab kit & this child
in jodhpores & a topi!

I doubt whether I can get a
port from Kuwait to meet me
until about the 15th April by which
date I believe I shall ^{have} 4 mails due
to me. However, so far, everything
has gone quite O.K.

Yours vsincerely

W. H. Shakespeare

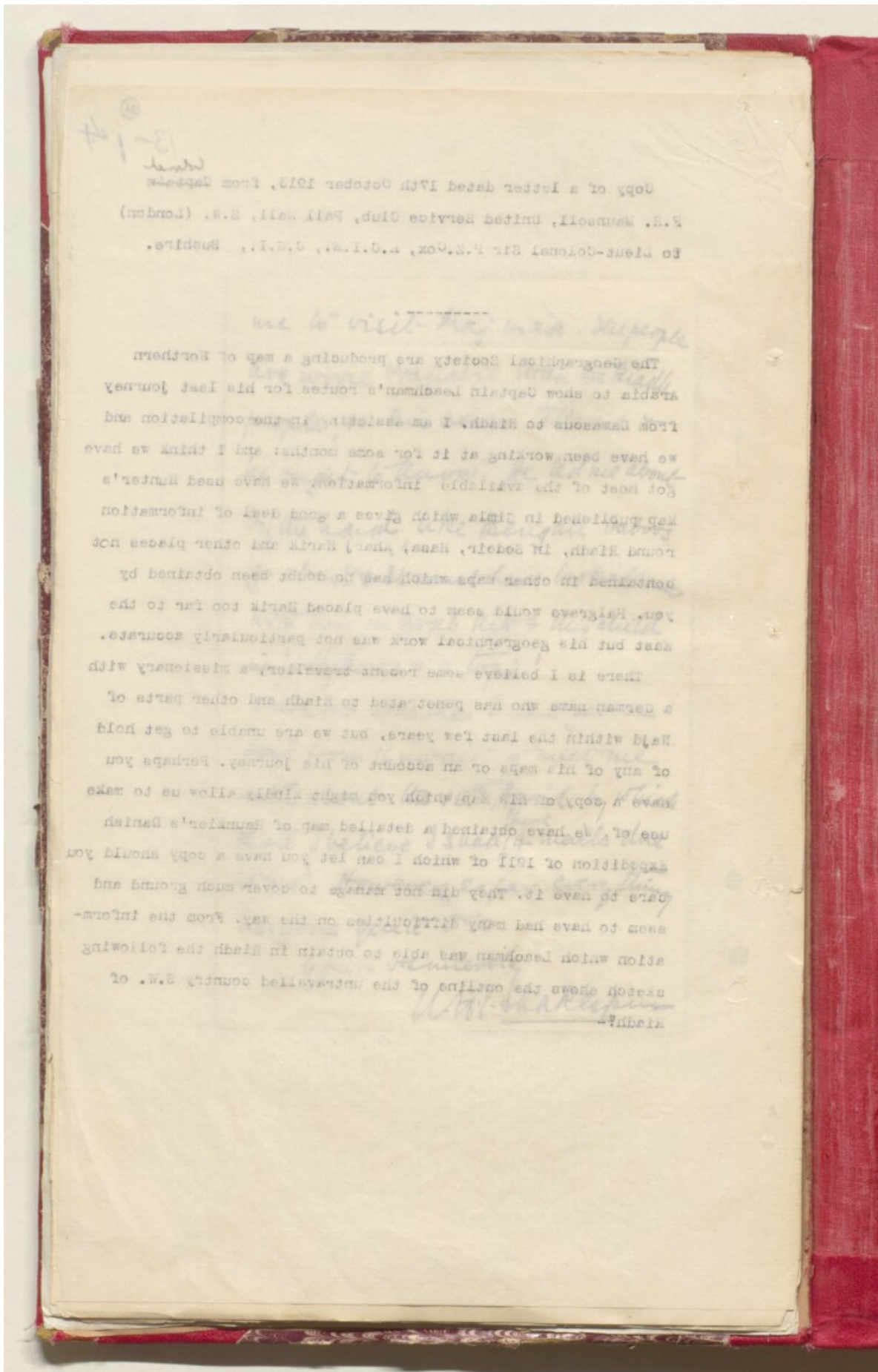


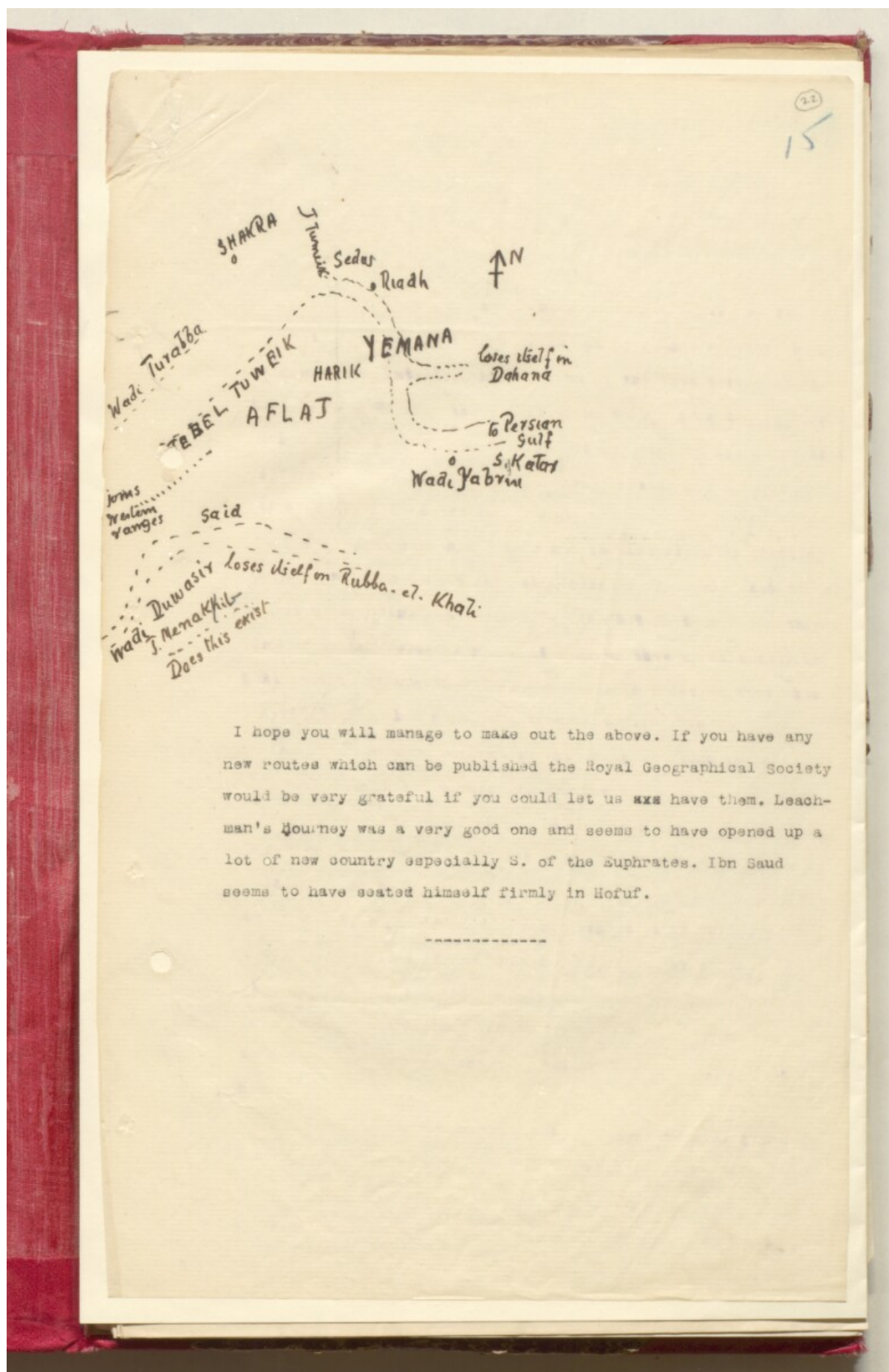
(2)
13-14
Colonel

Copy of a letter dated 17th October 1913, from Captain
F.R. Maunsell, United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W. (London)
to Lieut-Colonel Sir P.Z. Cox, K.C.I.B., C.S.I., Bushire.

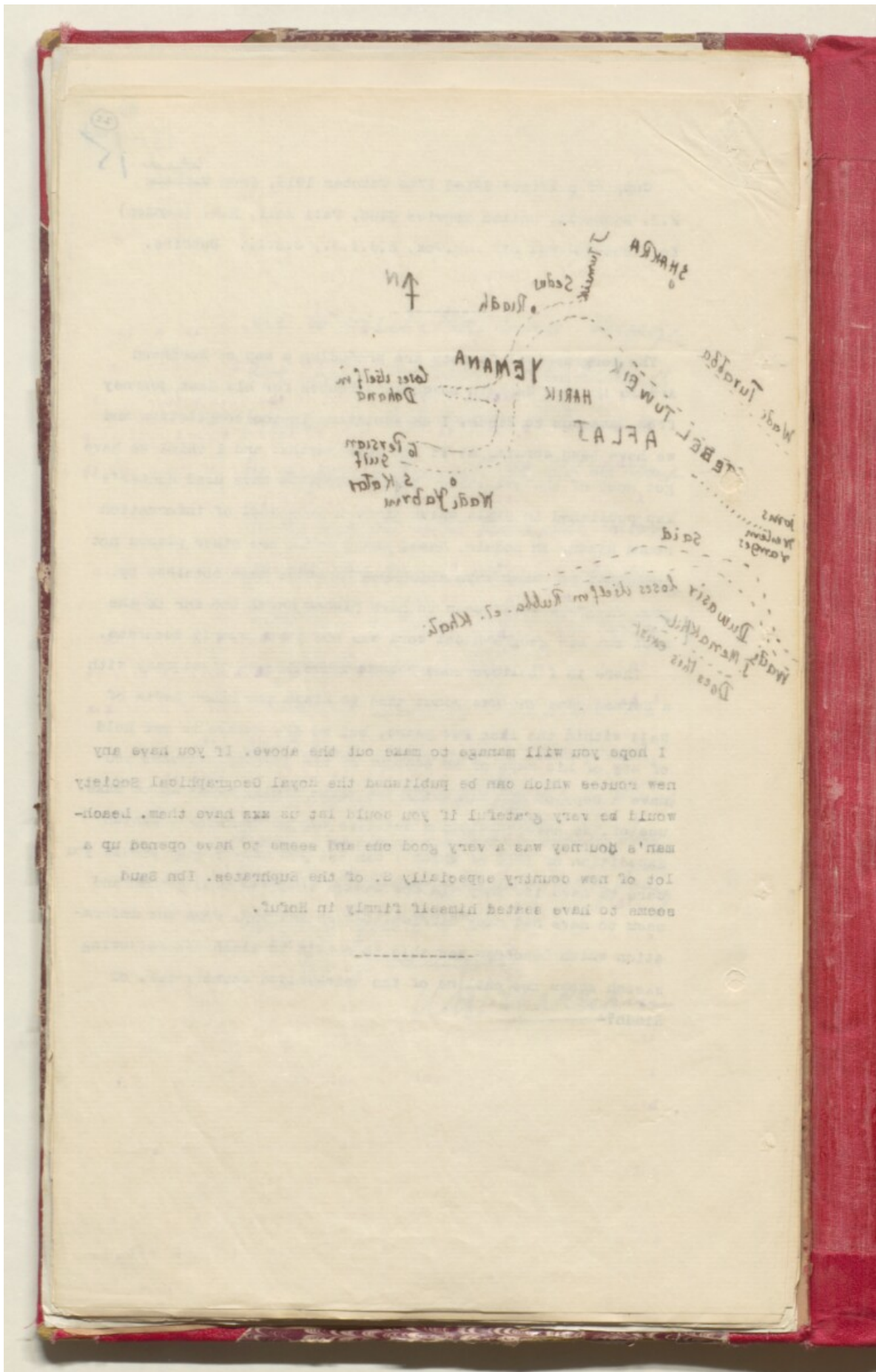
The Geographical Society are producing a map of Northern Arabia to show Captain Leachman's routes for his last journey from Damascus to Riyadh. I am assisting in the compilation and we have been working at it for some months: and I think we have got most of the available information. We have used Hunter's Map published in Simla which gives a good deal of information round Riyadh, in Sedeir, Hasa, Aharij Harik and other places not contained in other maps which has no doubt been obtained by you. Palgrave would seem to have placed Harik too far to the East but his geographical work was not particularly accurate.

There is I believe some recent traveller, a missionary with a German name who has penetrated to Riyadh and other parts of Najd within the last few years, but we are unable to get hold of any of his maps or an account of his journey. Perhaps you have a copy of his map which you might kindly allow us to make use of. We have obtained a detailed map of Raunkier's Danish Expedition of 1911 of which I can let you have a copy should you care to have it. They did not manage to cover much ground and seem to have had many difficulties on the way. From the information which Leachman was able to obtain in Riyadh the following sketch shows the outline of the untravelled country S.W. of Riyadh:-





I hope you will manage to make out the above. If you have any new routes which can be published the Royal Geographical Society would be very grateful if you could let us ~~xxx~~ have them. Leachman's Journey was a very good one and seems to have opened up a lot of new country especially S. of the Euphrates. Ibn Saud seems to have seated himself firmly in Hofuf.





*SD I have a copy of my reply. I should like a copy (23)
of this to take home with me
Have one done for me & then file 16*

Political Agency,

Kuwait .

27th November 1913.

Dear Sir Percy,

As you know I have succeeded during my time in Kuwait in acquiring a certain amount of rather special knowledge of the interior and Nejd and of the Arab tribes of the hinterland. My map, the result of my tours, is not quite finished but I hope to complete it before going on leave and that will give Government a lot of accurate detail for a large portion of North-East Arabia.

For some years now I have had the intention of starting off by land from Kuwait into the interior of Arabia when taking my leave and doing some more exploring but just as I was thinking of asking permission for it I found that my last tour in the spring was considered ill-advised. In point of fact when I left Kuwait I had no expectation of meeting Bin Saud at all as he was then away raiding to the south of Riyadh in Kharj. You will see that I hardly diverged at all from my original programme for the place Khafs, where I met Bin Saud, lies only a few miles south of my direct route between Majma'a and Sam-ihiya, and he arrived there only a few days before me; I could not have passed by his camp without giving cause for umbrage. Of course it was unfortunate for us that Bin Saud should have selected the precise moment he did to take Hasa and Katif, but need that trouble us much now, when we are, to some extent anyway, entering into direct relations with him?

Bin Saud who is really quite a friend of mine has asked me time and again to come and spend some time as his guest in Riyadh, and I was hoping that at the meeting which was to have taken place at Ojair last week (but unfortunately did not) he would repeat the invitation in your presence. I happen to be



24th November 1953.
Kuwait.
P.O. Box 10000.

Dear Sir,

As you know I have succeeded during my time in Kuwait in acquiring a certain amount of useful knowledge of the history and customs of the Arab tribes of the Peninsula. My hope, the result of my efforts, is not quite finished but I hope to complete it before long and then will give you a copy of a book of some 100 pages on the history of North-West Arabia.

For some years now I have had the intention of starting off by land from Kuwait into the interior of Arabia when taking my leave and doing some more exploring but just as I was thinking of asking permission for it I found that my last tour in the spring was completely ill-considered. In point of fact when I left Kuwait I had no expectation of meeting him and of all he was then away riding to the south of Arabia in March.

You will see that I hardly diverged at all from my original programme for the place where, where I met him, was only a few miles north of my direct route between Najaf and Baghdad, and he arrived there only a few days before me. I could not have passed by his camp without giving some thought to it. Of course it was unfortunate for me that he had should have selected the precise moment he did to take leave and Kufi, but need that trouble me much now, when he was to some extent anyway, entering into direct relations with him.

His name who is really quite a friend of mine has asked me to come and spend some time in his house in Baghdad, and I was hoping that at the meeting which was to have taken place at Qatif last week (but unfortunately did not) he would repeat the invitation in your presence. I happen to be



15
7
in an exceptionally favourable position to do some really accurate and useful geographical work. I know Bin Saud, his brothers and a number of his head-men well and am known to a larger number still by repute. I also know personally practically every Sheikh of the Umair and Ajman tribes of any consequence and am known to a number of the Thaffir, Shi'a, Al Morrah, Khantan and Ateyba tribes as well. I have habitually carried instruments on my tours such as sextant, large prismatic compass with stand, boiling point thermometer etc and used them openly before all and sundry without the least interference or causing suspicion, even in Bin Saud's own camp. I know the desert, its tribes, language, ways, customs, prejudices etc and am about as safe as anyone could well be in it. I have marched nearly 2500 miles in it and am sufficiently well known among the tribes to be able to send a single thalul-rider with my post over 300 miles and for the man to be passed through the tents of a tribe hostile to his own simply because he was recognized to be one of my men. This all sounds rather like blowing one's own trumpet but I can't show in any other way what an exceptional opportunity exists now for me to go and do some really good geographical work. Leachman in his journey hurried through on thaluls with, I think, only a small prismatic compass and aneroid; I have not seen his map but unless he was able to take astronomical sights his estimate of a day's march will be liable to considerable error; at least such has been my own experience. Barclay Raunkiaer, the Dane, has just sent me the result of his trek (in Danish and therefore unintelligible to me); but his map, which I can check, looks like the work of a school-boy; anyway he has taken the positions of Buraidah and Riadh direct off Hunter's map of Arabia and marked out his own route in between to fit, leaving out a lot geographical features altogether which he must have traversed; however, as he did not know Arabic and had only a



in an exceptionally favourable position to do some really
accurate and useful geographical work. I know him well, his
position and a number of his best men well and am known to
a large number still by name. I also know personally pre-
siding every branch of the United Arab Emirates of my
correspondence and am known to a number of the British, Arab,
Al-Nahyan, Al-Fahim and Al-Jaber tribes as well. I have had
very varied experience on my former work as a geologist, having
worked in the mountains with them, being a point of reference for
and from them before all and sundry without the least in-
-ference or occasion of suspicion, even in his own
camp. I know the desert, the tribes, the people, the
provinces etc and am sure as soon as anyone could well be
in it. I have marched nearly 2000 miles in it and am ex-
-tremely well known among the tribes to be able to send a single
tribe with my tent over 300 miles and for the men to be
passed through the hands of a tribe hostile to his own simply
because he was recommended to be one of my men. This all sound
rather like blowing one's own trumpet but I don't show in any
other way what an exceptional opportunity exists now for me
to go and do some really good geographical work. I am
in his journey through the desert on the whole with, I think, only
a small scientific compass and aneroid; I have not seen his map
but unless he was able to take astronomical observations he
of a day's march will be liable to considerable error; at least
such has been my own experience. I have been told that
Dana, has just sent me the result of his work (in Arabia and
therefore amenable to me) but his map, which I am afraid
looks like the work of a school-boy; anyway he has taken the
positions of Baghdad and Kadhif direct off Hamdan's map of
Arabia and marked out his own route in between to fit, leaving
out a lot of geographical features which he must have
observed; however, as he did not know Arabia and had only a



18

small pocket compass, shade thermometer, and pocket aneroid, perhaps he has not done so badly. I would not make these rather disparaging remarks but for the fact that I have marched backwards and forwards over a good deal of the country with ample leisure to take bearings, sights for latitude etc and know the country of which I am speaking really well.

All I want to be allowed to do is to start off from Kuwait when I am relieved by Grey. I have already spent a good deal of money in getting instruments, tents, etc, and shall never have a similar opportunity again. The season is favourable, there is peace among the tribes, I am known personally right down to Nejd and now that we are treating directly with Bin Saud, there can be no suggestion in my purely geographical trek of any sort of political mission being carried out behind the back of the Turks. Also my departure from Kuwait at this time would not excite the remark that another man's might.

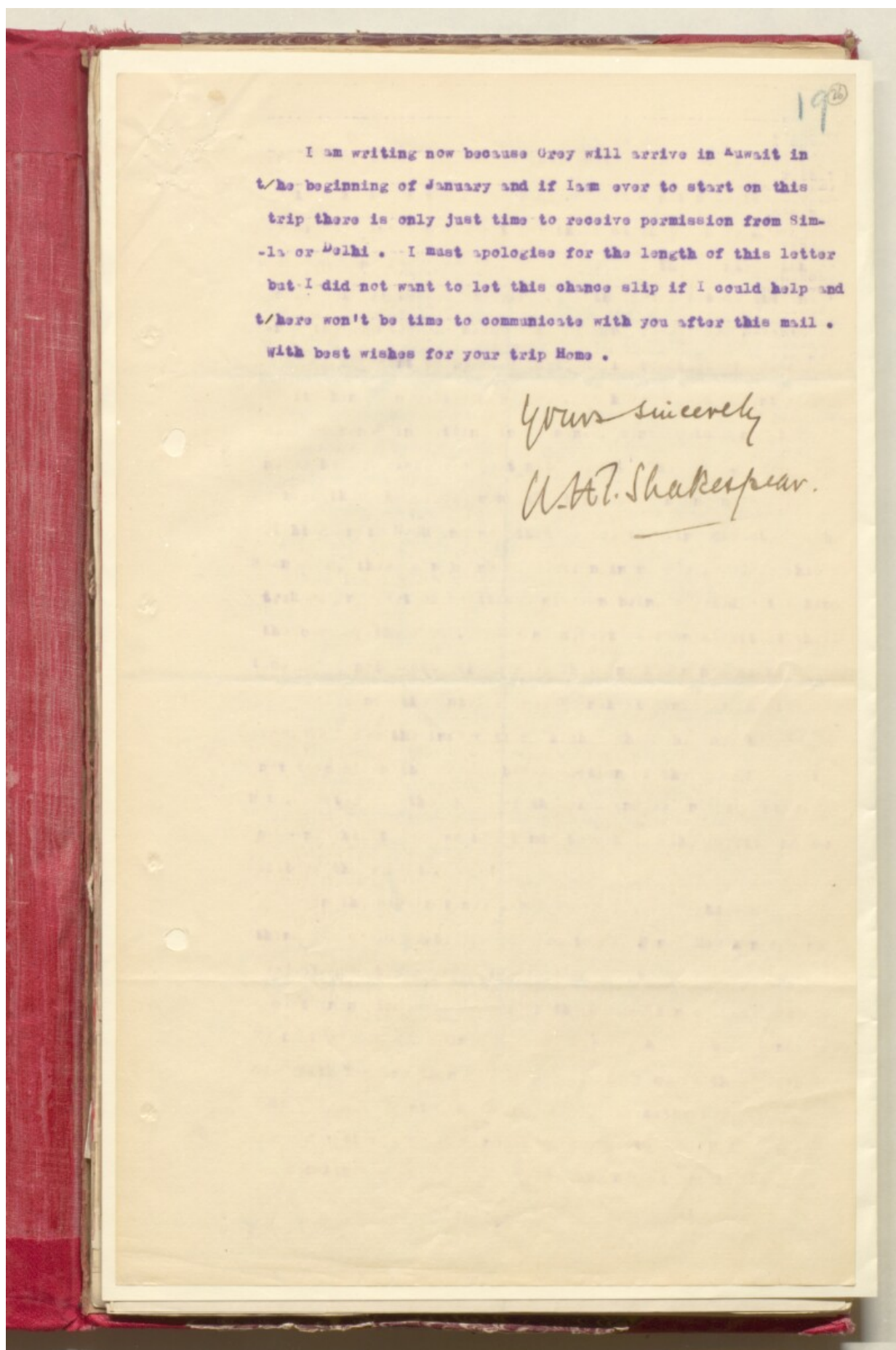
I fancy the Intelligence Branch at Simla would give a good deal for the information which I shall be able to produce not to mention the Geographical section of the War Office at Home. After all the whole of the risk and expense is entirely my own, whilst Government stands to get all the profit and benefit of the results.

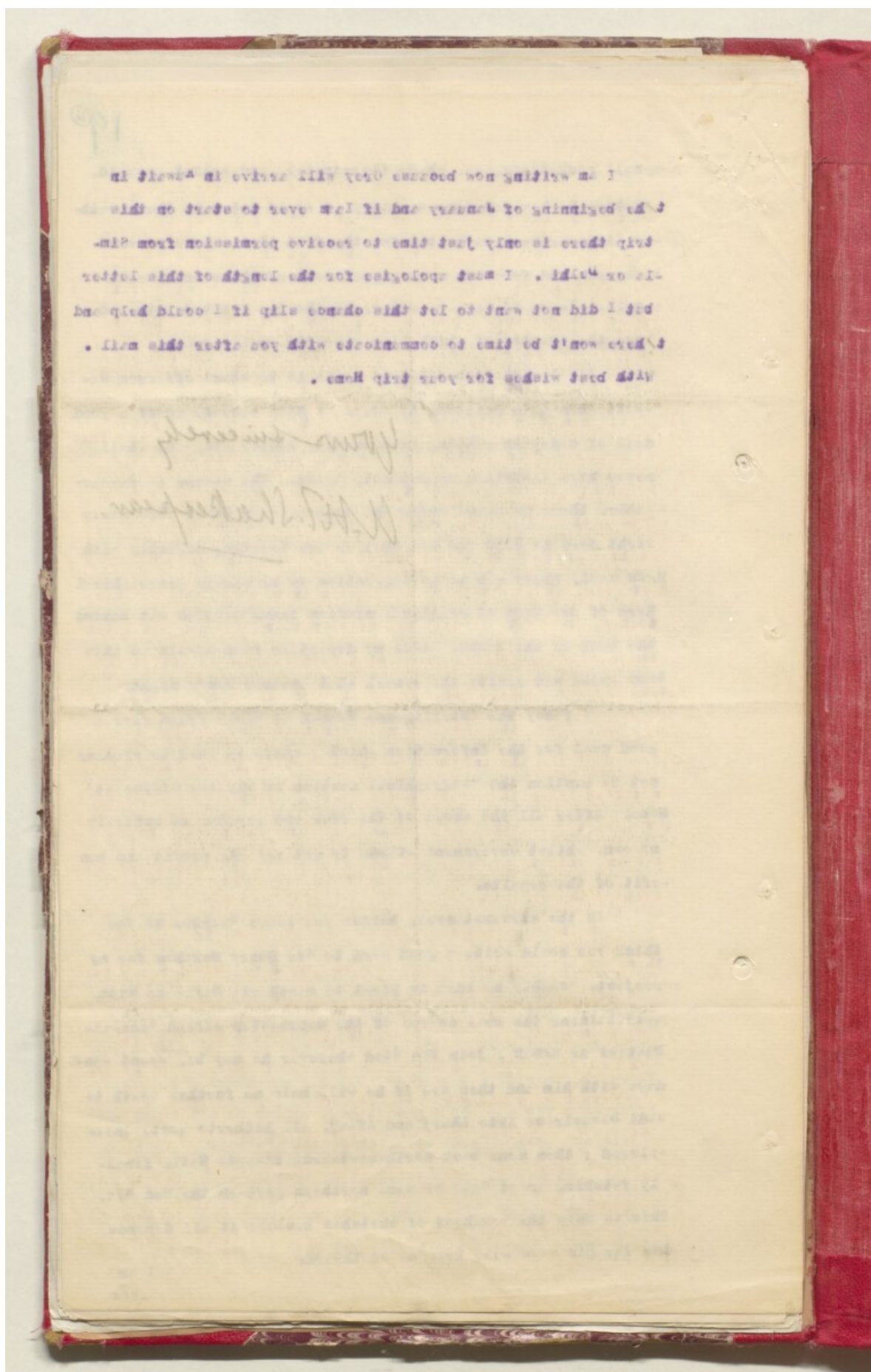
In the circumstances, before you leave Basra do you think you could write a good word to Sir Henry McMahon for my project. Roughly my idea is first to march via Hafar to Nejd, ascertaining the real course of the depression called "adi-al-Mustawi or Ermak", join Bin Saud wherever he may be, spend some days with him and then see if he will help me further south to Wadi Dawasir or into Kharj and Aflaj, all hitherto quite unexplored; then come back north-westwards towards Hail, finally fetching up at Suez or some northern port on the Red Sea. This is only the roughest of sketches because it all depends how far Bin Saud will help me southward.

I am
C.E.



...small pocket compass, shade thermometer, and pocket anemometer.
...perhaps he has not done so lately. I would not make these things
...or disappearing tomorrow but for the fact that I have mentioned
...backwards and forwards over a good deal of the country with
...single instances to take bearings, sights for latitude etc and
...know the country of which I am speaking really well.
...All I want to be allowed to do is to start off from the
...well when I am relieved by Ouse. I have already spent a good
...deal of money in visiting instruments, books, etc, and shall
...never have a similar opportunity again. The reason is that
...this, there is power among the tribes, I am known personally
...right down to Wajid and now that we are travelling directly with
...him back, there can be no suggestion in my party's geographical
...task of any sort of political mission being carried out behind
...the back of the Turks. Also my departure from Kuwait at this
...time would not excite the remark that another man's might
...I know the intelligence Bureau at Wajid would give a
...good deal for the information which I shall be able to produce
...not to mention the geographical section of the War Office at
/>Home. After all the whole of the risk and expense is entirely
/>my own, whilst Government stands to get all the profit and the
/>-all of the results.
/>In the circumstances, before you leave Wajid do you
/>think you could write a good word to Sir Henry McMahon for my
/>project. Probably my idea is likely to meet with little or no
/>reception in the vast masses of the depression called "Arabia"
/>Mesopotamia or Hamak, I join him back whatever he may do, spend some
/>days with him and then see if he will help me further south to
/>Wadi Bawait on the right and left, all districts quite un-
/>explored; then come back north-westwards towards Hail, finally
/>if looking up at that to some northern point on the Red Sea.
/>This is only the roughest of sketches because it all depends
/>how far Sir Henry will help me westwards.
/>I am
/>Yours
/>A. S. P.







27
20
Mohammerah,

December 3rd, 1913.

My dear Wood,

I want to place before the Foreign Department informally before I hand over charge some explanation/ of Shakespear's aspirations in the direction of a journey across Central Arabia.

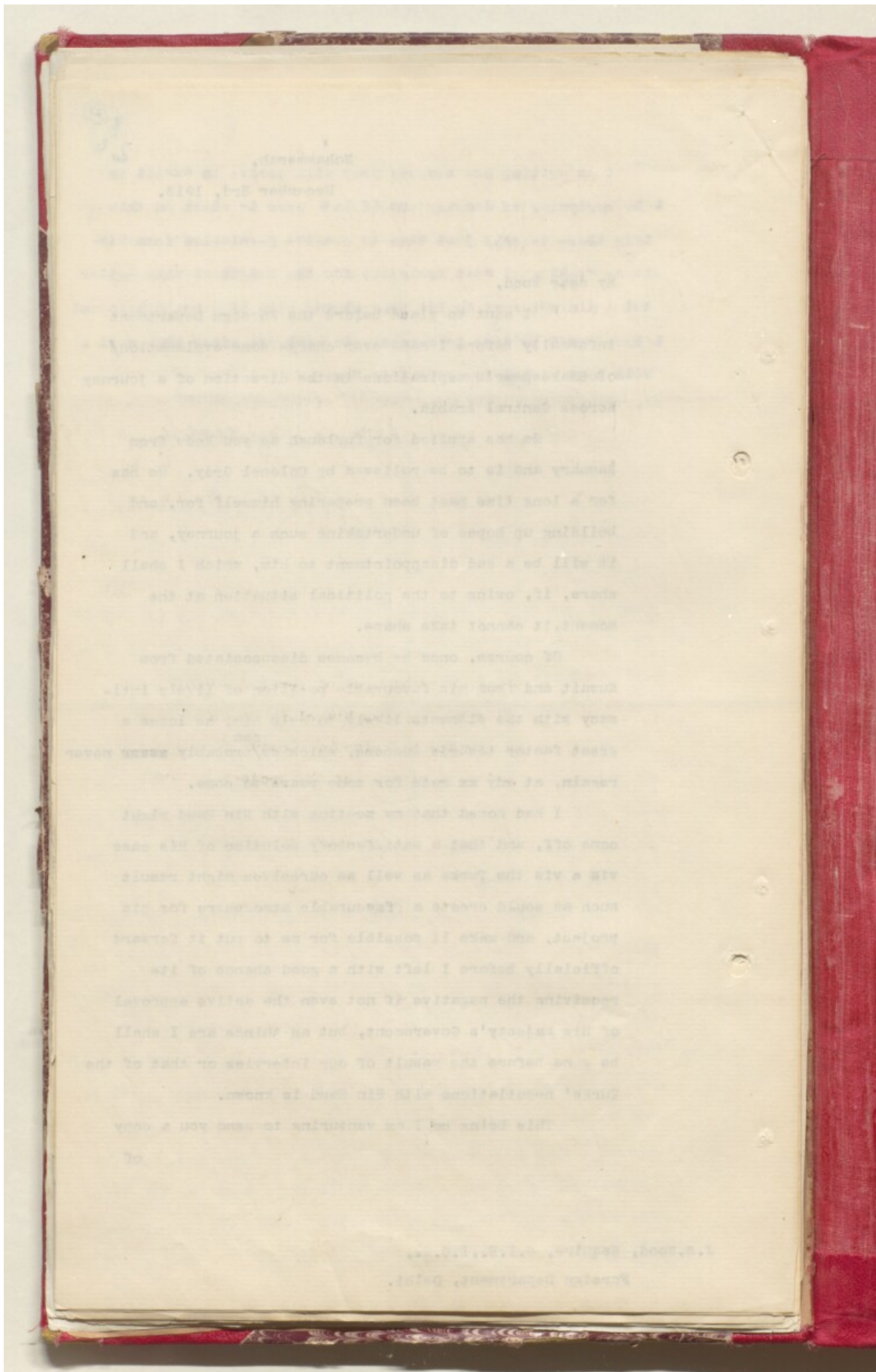
He has applied for furlough as you know from January and is to be relieved by Colonel Grey. He has for a long time past been preparing himself for, and building up hopes of undertaking such a journey, and it will be a sad disappointment to him, which I shall share, if, owing to the political situation at the moment, it cannot take shape.

Of course, once he becomes disassociated from Kuwait and from his favourable position of lively intimacy with the elements likely to help him, he loses a great factor towards success, which he ^{can} probably ~~never~~ never regain, at any ~~xx~~ rate for some years to come.

I had hoped that my meeting with Bin Saud might come off, and that a satisfactory solution of his case vis a vis the Turks as well as ourselves might result such as would create a favourable atmosphere for his project, and make it possible for me to put it forward officially before I left with a good chance of its receiving the negative if not even the active approval of His Majesty's Government, but as things are I shall be gone before the result of our interview or that of the Turks' negotiations with Bin Saud is known.

This being so I am venturing to send you a copy
of

J.B.Wood, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Foreign Department, Delhi.





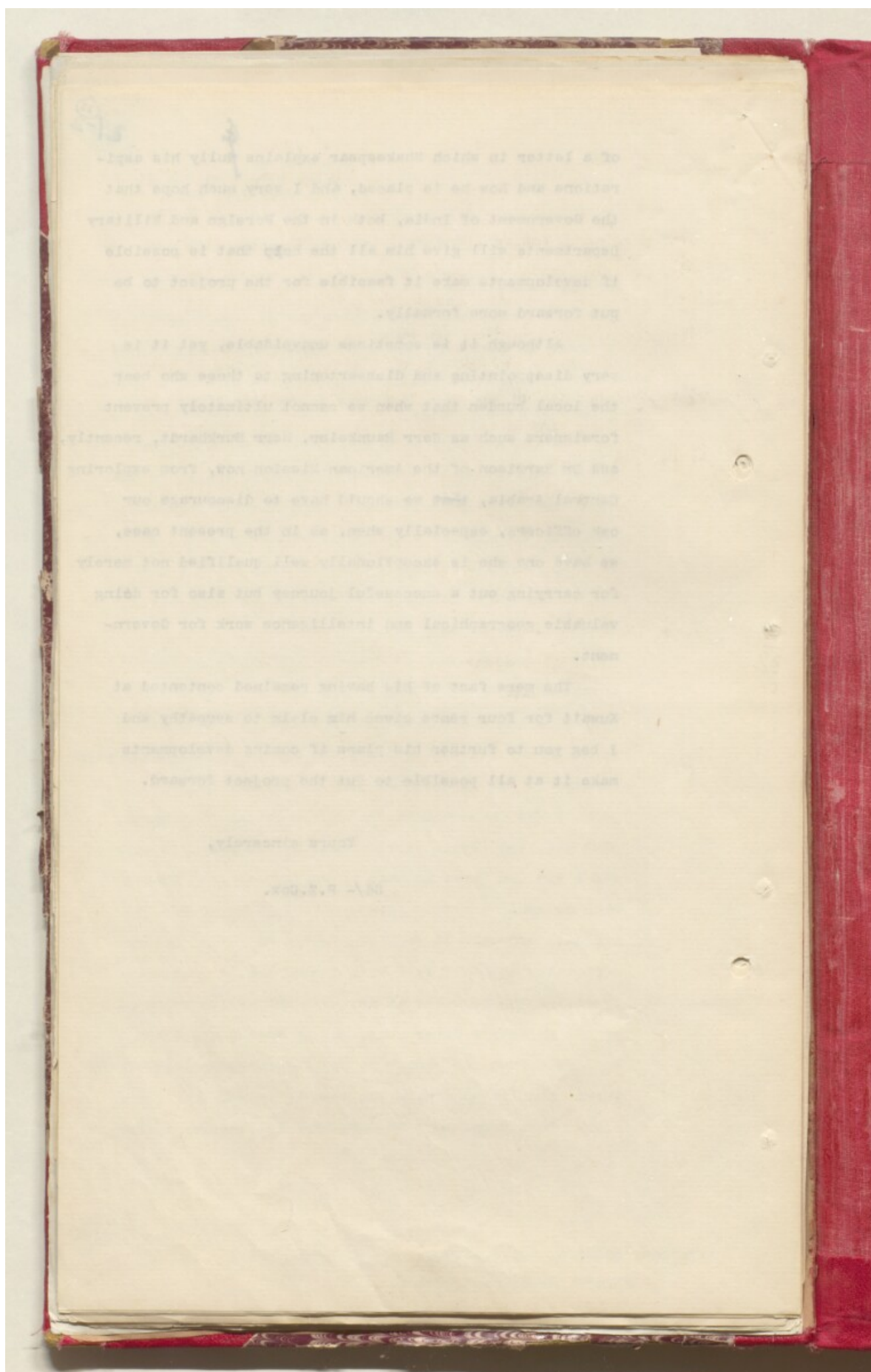
of a letter in which Shakespear explains fully his aspirations and how he is placed, and I very much hope that the Government of India, both in the Foreign and Military Departments will give him all the help that is possible if developments make it feasible for the project to be put forward more formally.

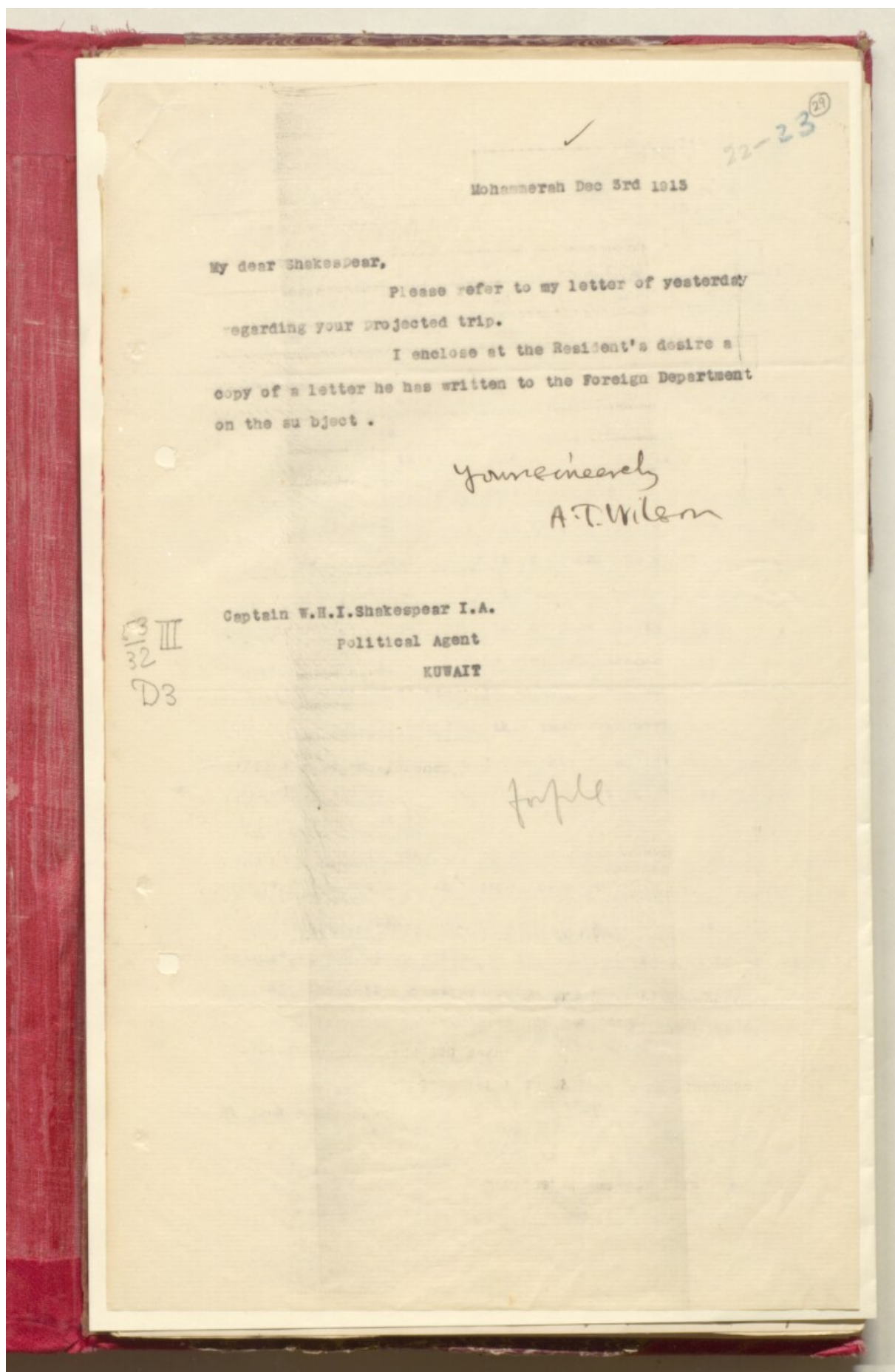
Although it is sometimes unavoidable, yet it is very disappointing and disheartening to those who bear the local burden that when we cannot ultimately prevent foreigners such as Herr Raunkaiser, Herr Burkhardt, recently, and Dr Harrison of the American Mission now, from exploring Central Arabia, ~~that~~ we should have to discourage our own officers, especially when, as in the present case, we have one who is exceptionally well qualified not merely for carrying out a successful journey but also for doing valuable geographical and intelligence work for Government.

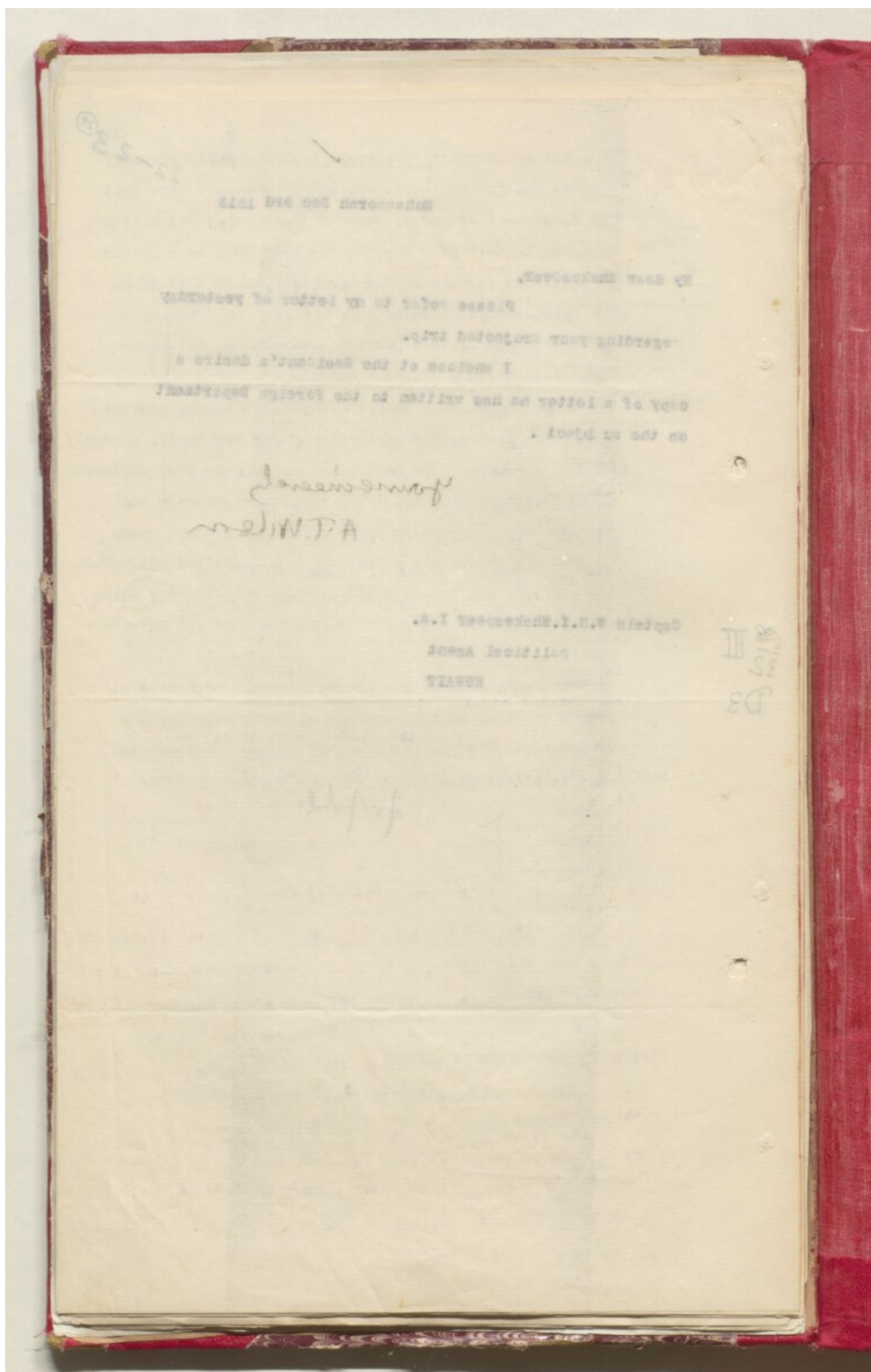
The mere fact of his having remained contented at Kuwait for four years gives him claim to sympathy and I beg you to further his plans if coming developments make it at all possible to put the project forward.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- P.Z.Cox.









British Agency,

Kuwait.

24th December 1913.

Dear Mr. Lorimer,

Sir Percy Cox may have told you of my desire to trek across Central Arabia from Kuwait, when taking my leave and I am asking now for the necessary permission from Government.

I have delayed applying before as I was engaged down at Bahrein at the recent interview with Bin Saud, and I wanted to make sure that he would have no objection to my project. I asked him, explaining that I would be on leave and not a British official on tour, and that my object was to see Central Arabia particularly south of Rindh. He invited me to come as soon as I liked and to stay as long as I liked in the most cordial way, even offering to post men to meet me at any particular spots I liked to name, and then to send me on into Ibn Rashid's country afterwards.

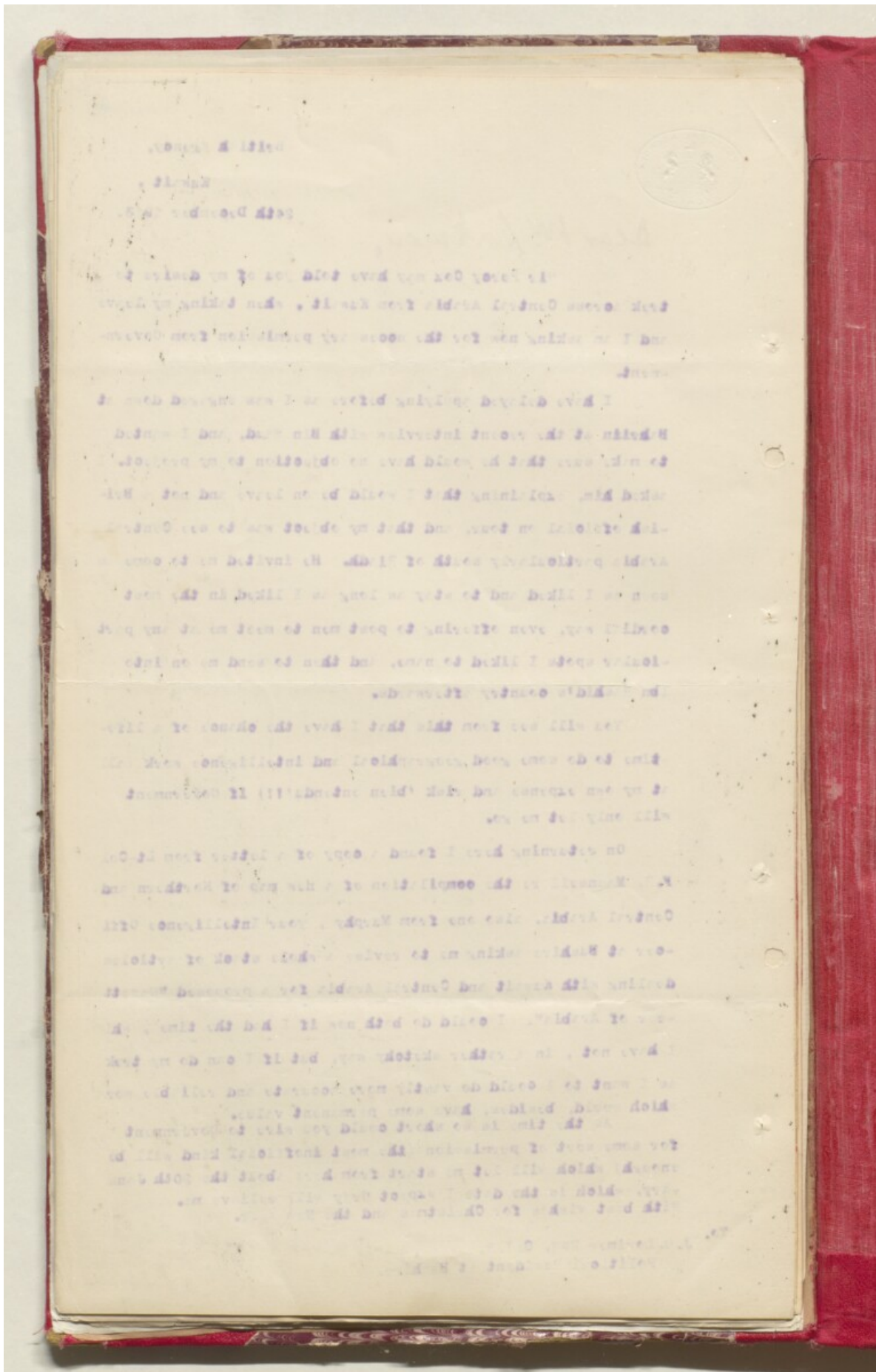
You will see from this that I have the chance of a lifetime to do some good geographical and intelligence work (all at my own expense and risk 'bien entendu'!) if Government will only let me go.

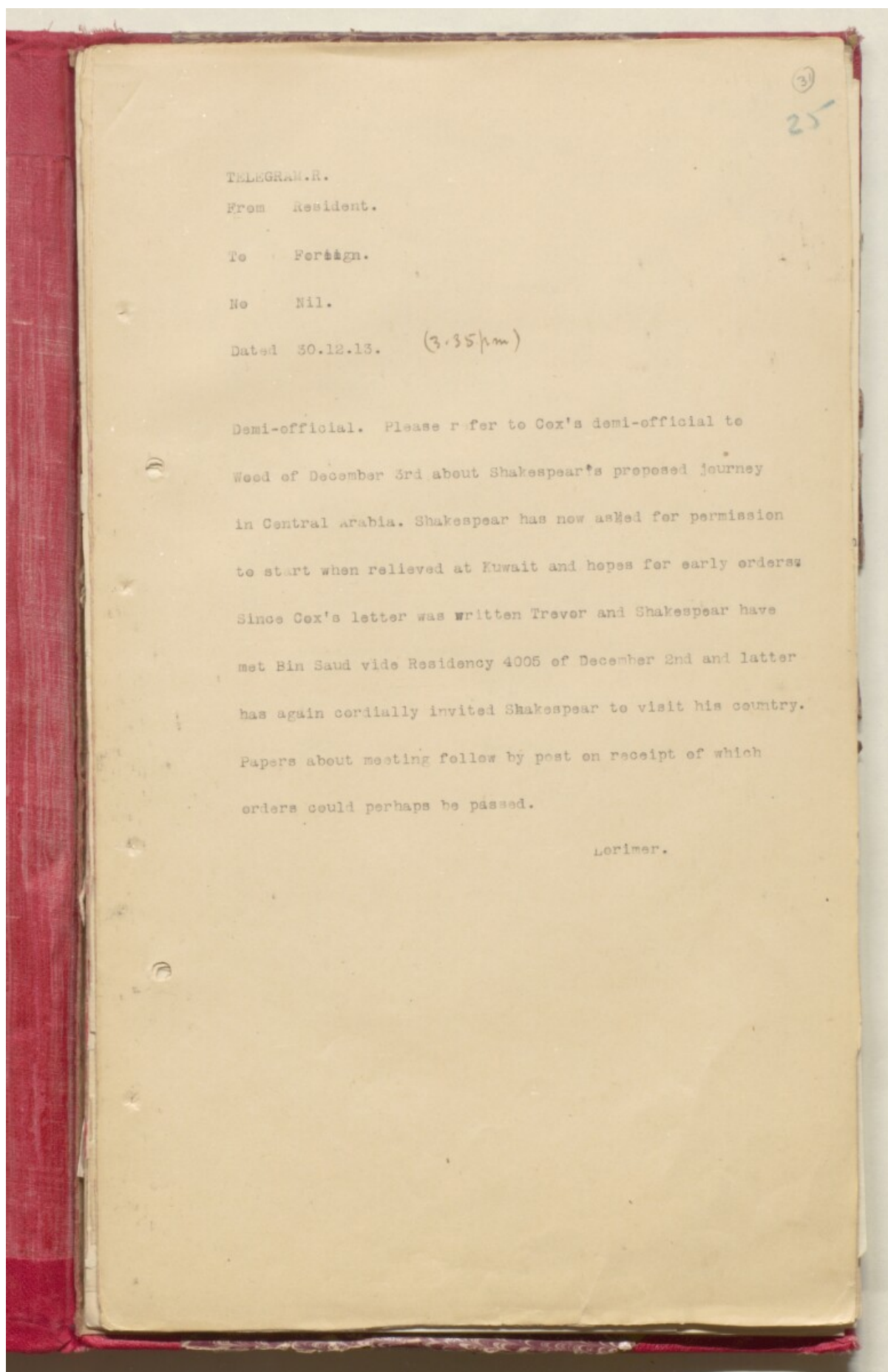
On returning here I found a copy of a letter from Lt-Col F.R. Mansell re the compilation of a new map of Northern and Central Arabia, also one from Murphy, your Intelligence Officer at Bushire asking me to revise a whole stack of articles dealing with Kuwait and Central Arabia for a proposed "Gazette of Arabia". I could do both now if I had the time, which I have not, in a rather sketchy way, but if I can do my trek as I want to I could do vastly more accurate and reliable work which would, besides, have some permanent value.

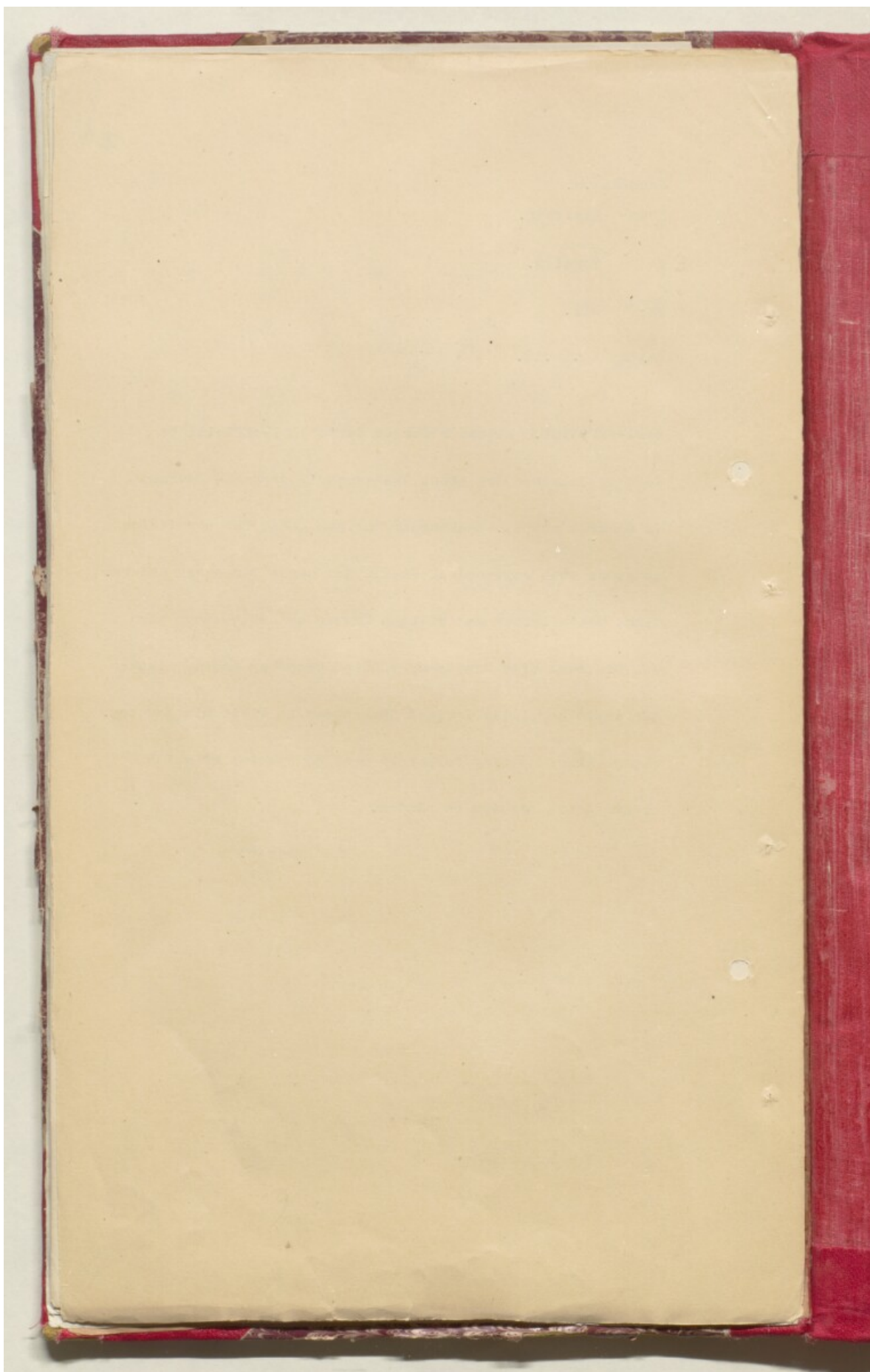
As the time is so short could you wire to Government for some sort of permission (the most unofficial kind will be enough) which will let me start from here about the 20th January, which is the date I expect Gray will relieve me. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

To,
J.G. Lorimer Esq, C.I.E.,
Political Resident at Bushire.

Yours sincerely
W.H. Shakespeare









33
26
TELEGRAM.R.

From Lorimer. (Resident)

To Wood. (Foreign Secretary)

Re: Nil.

Dated 30.12.13. (3.35/pm)

Personal and private. My demi-official telegram of today.

Shakespear would be content with unofficial permission.

If his journey can by any means be permitted I strongly urge

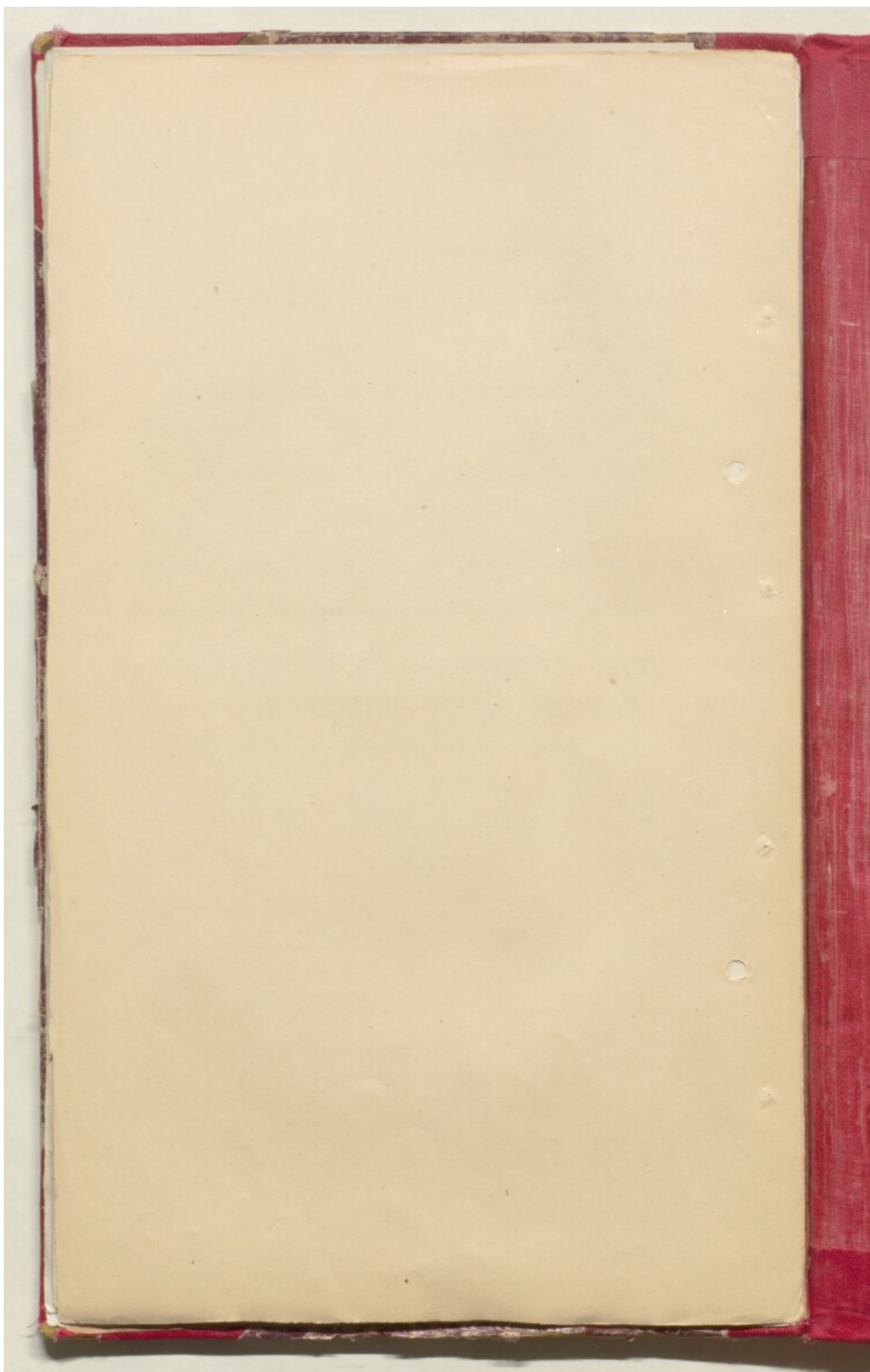
that he should be allowed to undertake it. Opportunity is

very exceptional so are his qualifications, and it is

most desirable that credit of exploring unknown parts of

Central Arabia should if possible fall to Britisher.

Lorimer.





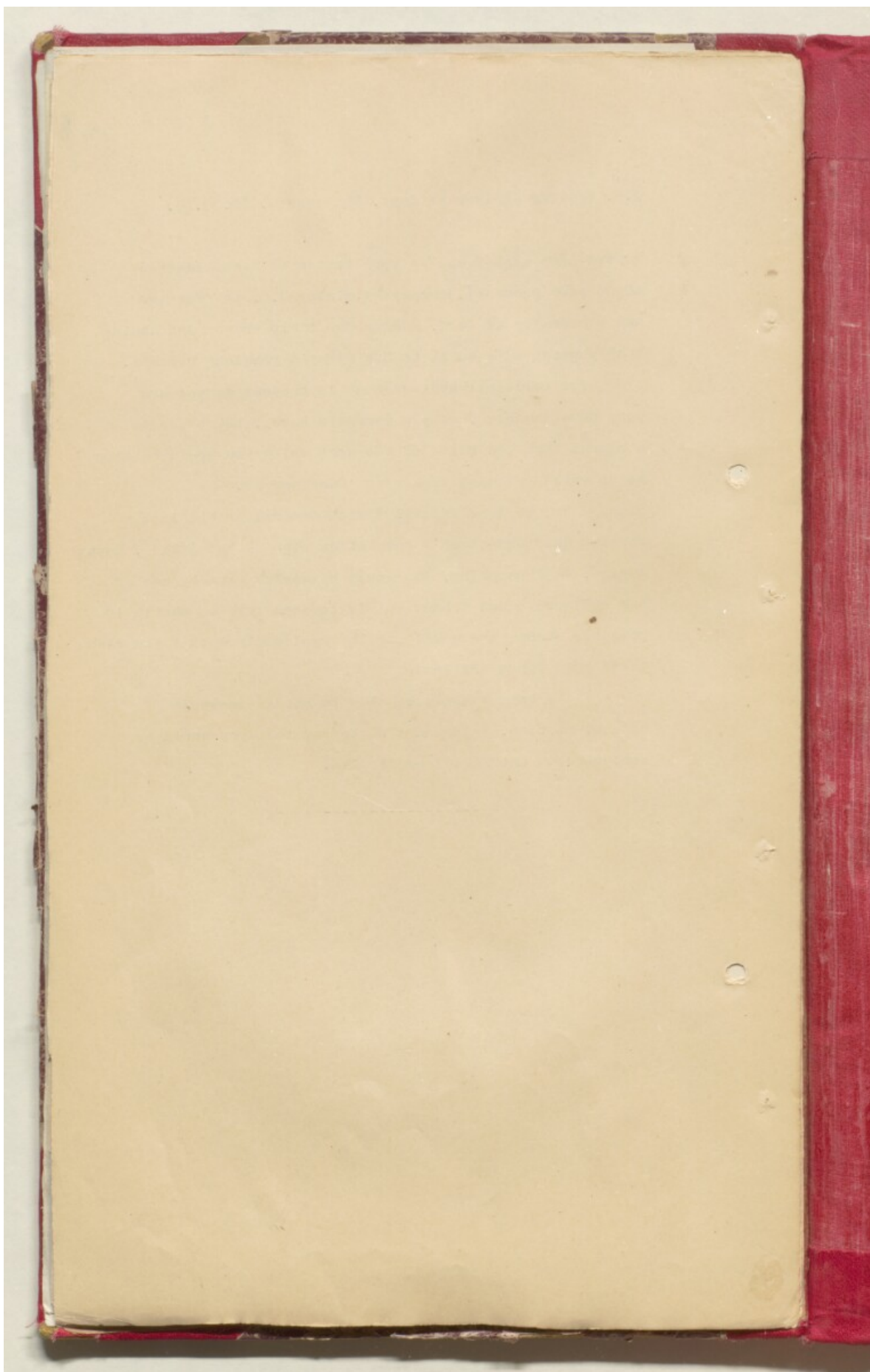
39
27
D.O. from Mr Lerimer to Capt. Shakespear. 30.12.13.

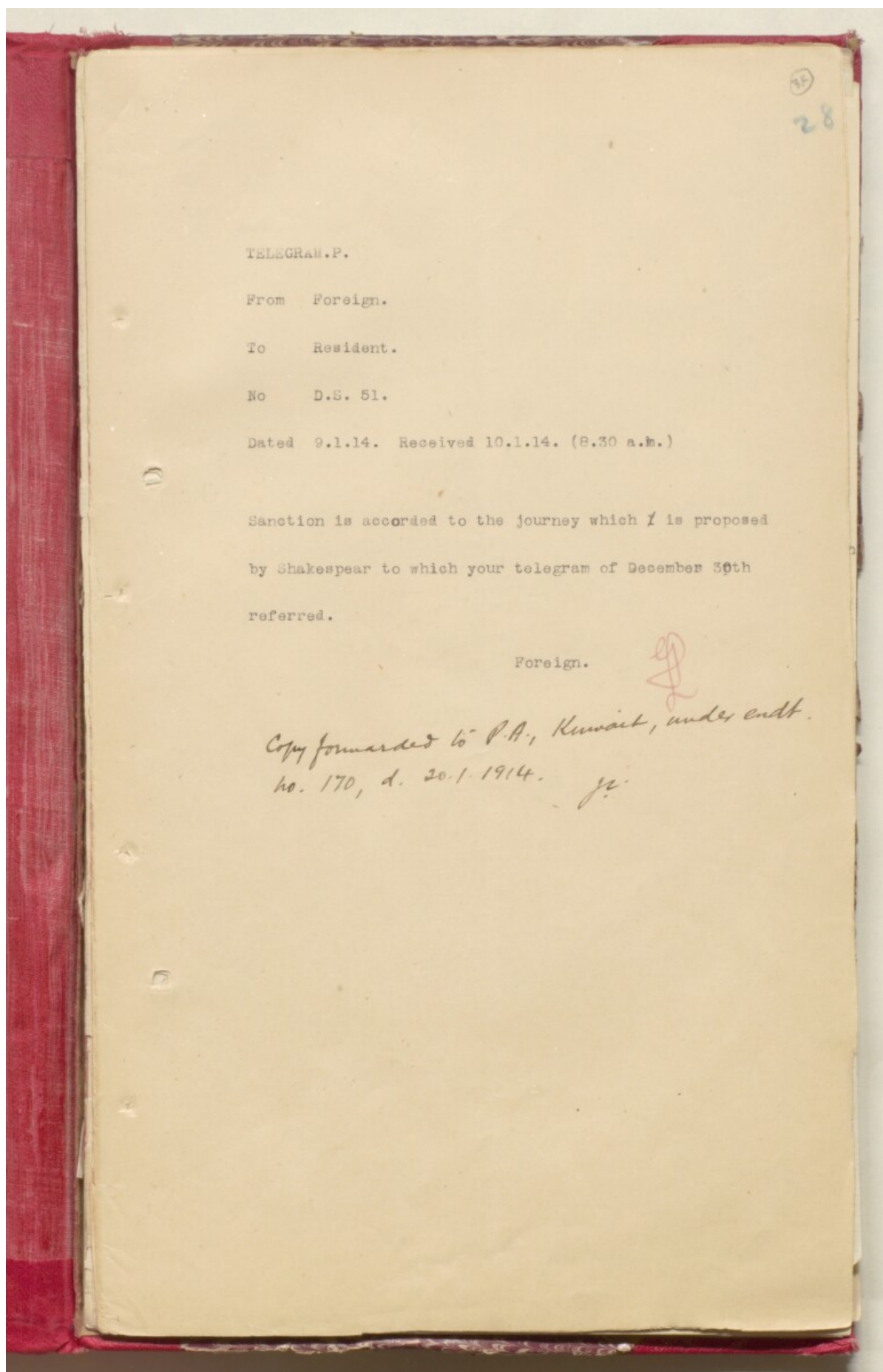
I have done what I can on your letter of 24th December about your proposed journey by wiring D.O. to Foreign and personally to Wood, asking for early orders and adding such support as I could to Sir Percy's previous remarks.

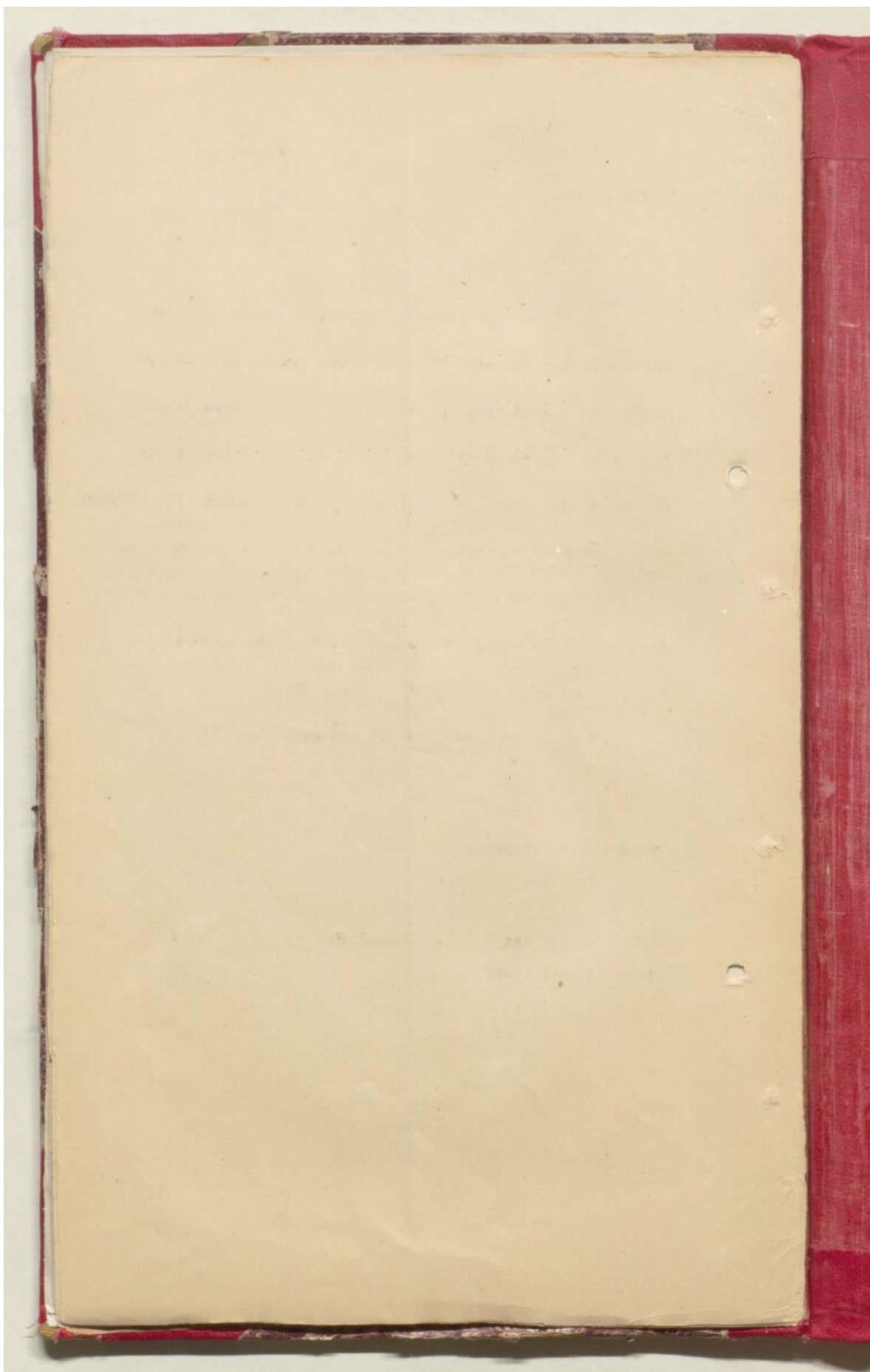
The political obstacles at the present moment are very considerable, as you yourself know, but there is a chance that the value of the work which you would be able to do would outweigh them with the Government.

Since I had to do (distantly) with Central Arabia in the Persian Gulf Gazetteer I have often wished that Aflaj, Haudah, Hariq, Wadi Dawasir, etc could be worked out by one of our officers; and I have put it to Wood that we should if possible secure the credit of the explorations that you wish to do make for a Britisher.

I hope I shall be able to get an answer in convenient time. I was careful to say that you would be content with unofficial permission.









TELEGRAM.P.

From Foreign.

To Resident.

No D.S.55.

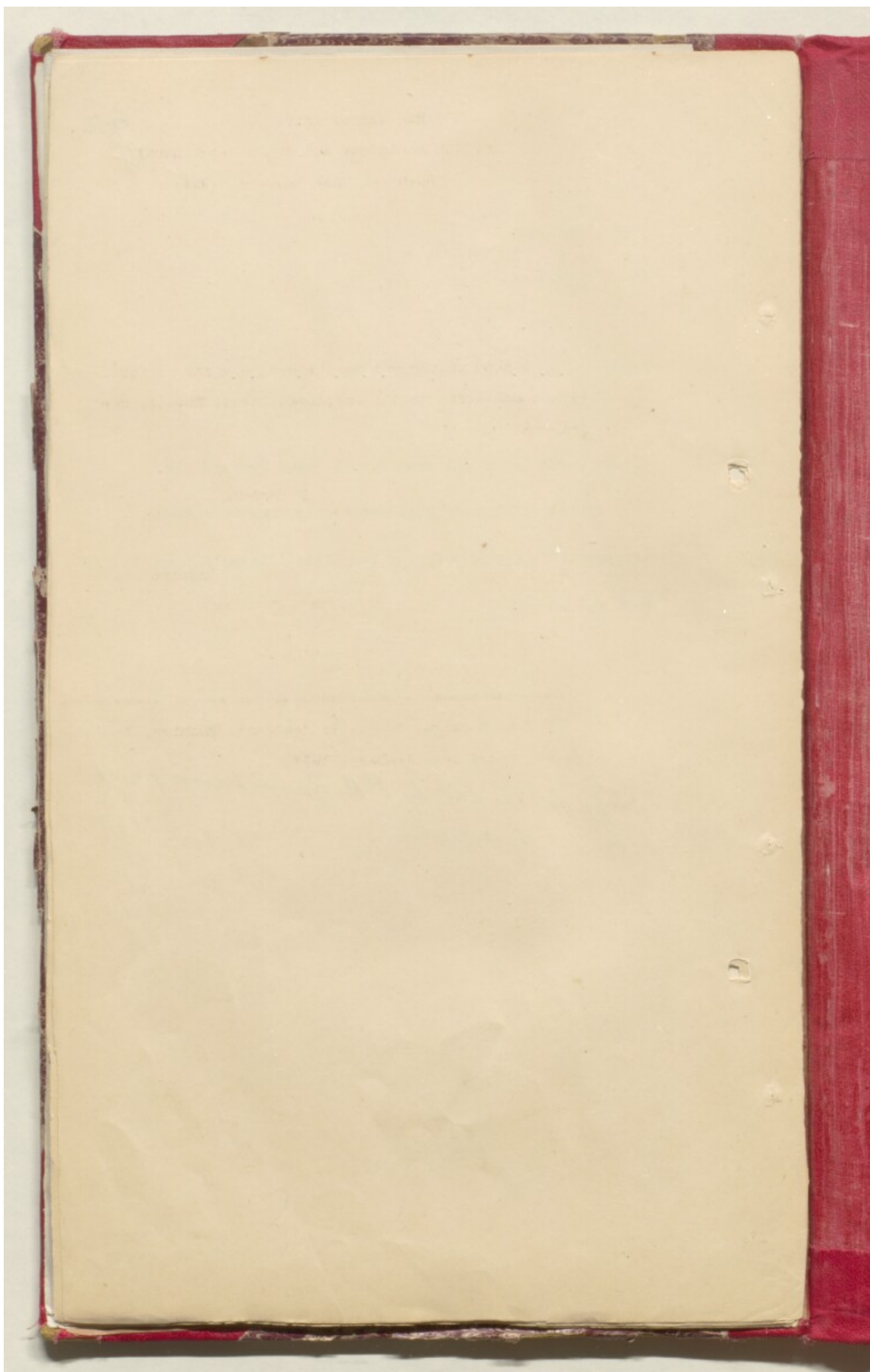
Dated 12.1.14. Received 13.1.14. (7.30 a.m.)

Please refer to my telegram D.S.51 dated January 9th.

You should remind Shakespear that non-Muhammadans
are prohibited from entering the Hijaz Wilayat and he
must not do so.

Foreign.

*Copy forwarded to P.A. Kuwait under entt.
no. 113, d. 13.1.1914. jc.*





Telegram.

From Shakespear c/o C.C.Fao.

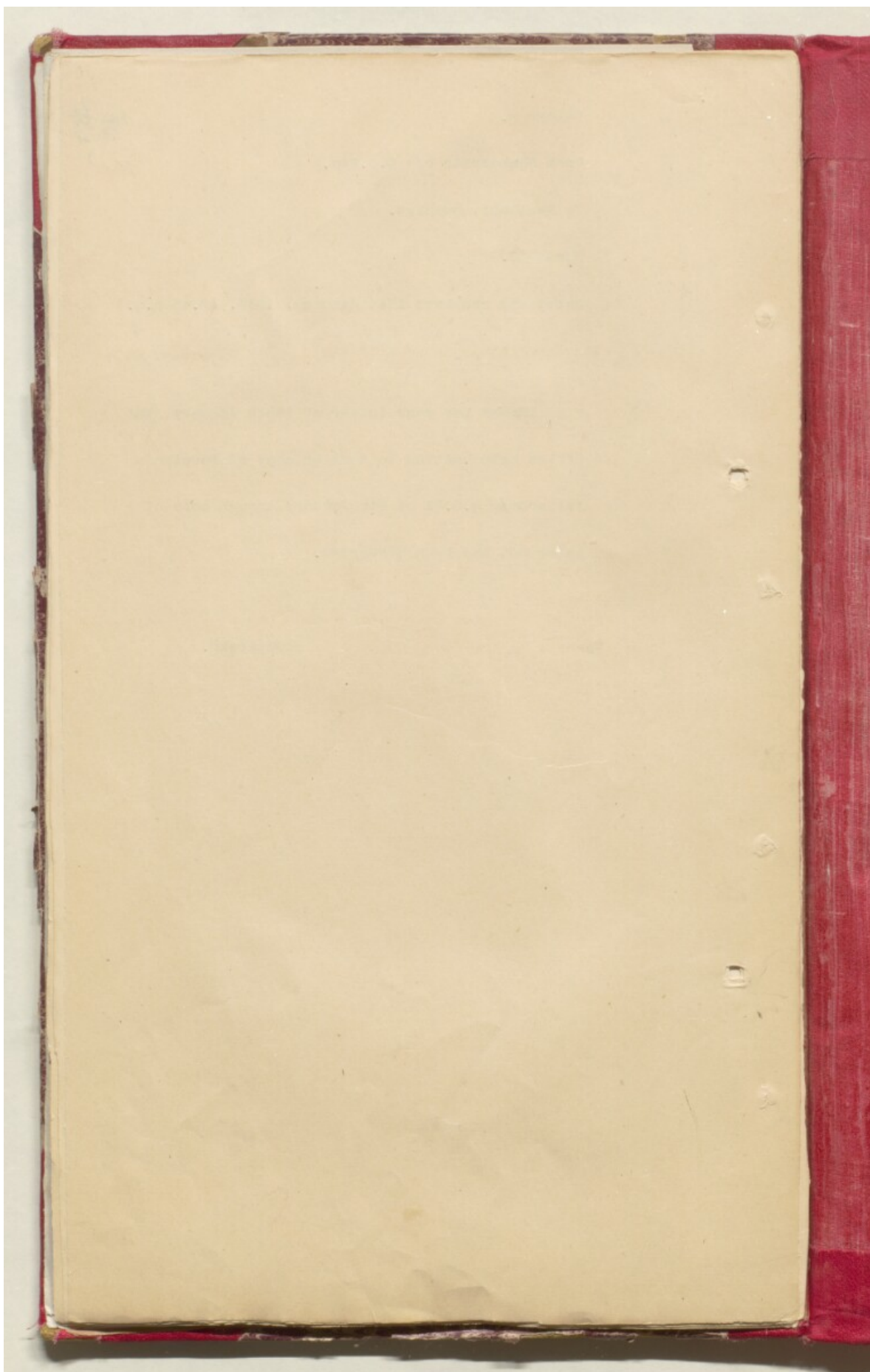
To Resident, Bushire.

Words 40.

Dated and received 18th January, 1914. (2.45 p.m.)

Thanks for your letter of tenth January, but
office have omitted to send me copy of Foreign's
telegram D.S.51 of 9th January though copy of
later one has been forwarded.

Shakespear.





Confidential.

O.R.C. 454 ✓

(37)
36

5th February 1914.

My dear Maunsell,

Your letter of 17th October to Sir Percy Cox seems to have remained unanswered till now. I think he was consulting Shakespear (lately Political Agent at Kuwait) about routes etc in Najd, and probably before he had got the information he wanted, his leave was granted and I took his place. He is now at home in London (c/o Grindlay & Coy, Parliament Street) and you will easily get into touch with him if you are not so already.

I had not heard of any missionary with a German name at Riyadh, and my office have not any maps or reports by such a person.

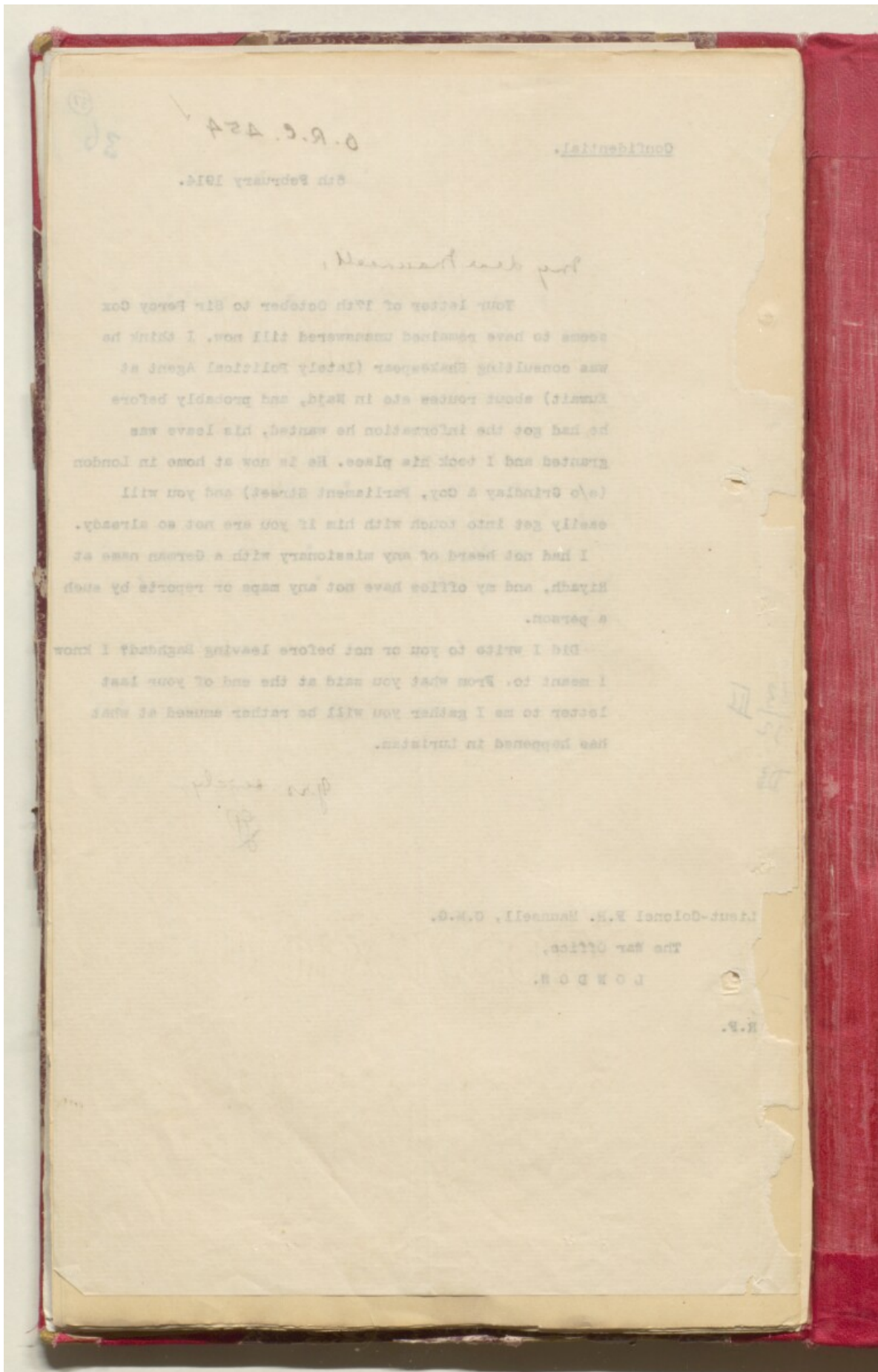
Did I write to you or not before leaving Baghdad? I know I meant to. From what you said at the end of your last letter to me I gather you will be rather amused at what has happened in Luristan.

Yrs. sincerely.
G.P.

Lieut-Colonel F.R. Maunsell, C.M.G.

The War Office,
L O N D O N.

R.F.





No. 600, dated Bushire, the 26th February (received 9th March) 1914.

From—CAPTAIN R. L. BIRDWOOD, First Assistant to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf (in charge current duties),

To—The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 131 E.-A., dated 20th January 1911, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the letter, noted in the margin, which has been received from the

No. C.—8, dated the 17th February 1914.

Political Agent at Kuwait, in regard to the gift to the Dutch Reformed Church Mission by Shaikh Sir Mubarak-us-Subah, K.C.L.E., C.S.I., of a small additional plot of land.

No. C.—8, dated the 17th February 1914.

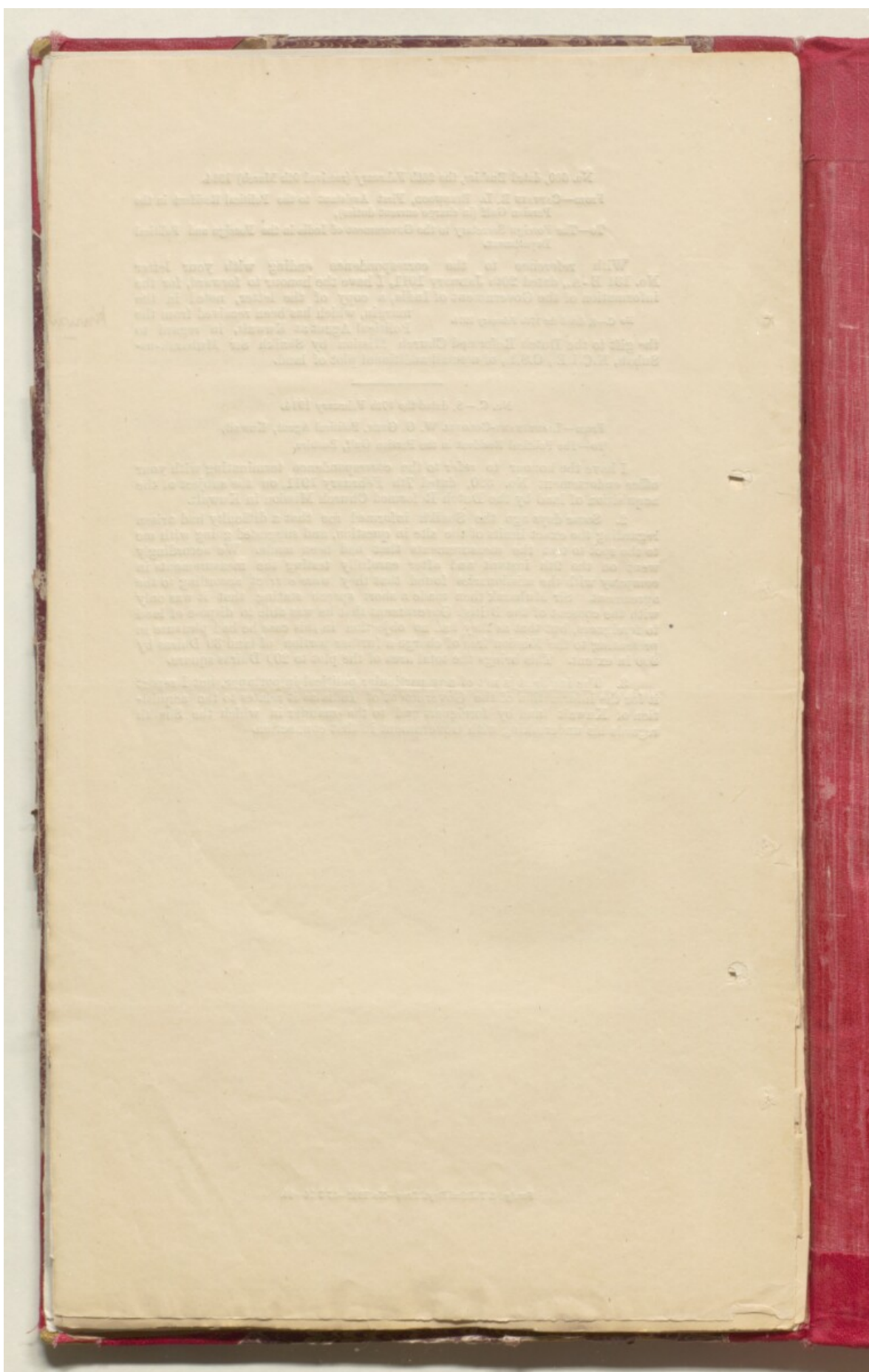
From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. G. GREY, Political Agent, Kuwait,

To—The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence terminating with your office endorsement No. 320, dated 7th February 1911, on the subject of the acquisition of land by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission in Kuwait.

2. Some days ago the Shaikh informed me that a difficulty had arisen regarding the exact limits of the site in question, and suggested going with me to the spot to test the measurements that had been made. We accordingly went on the 9th instant and after carefully testing the measurements in company with the missionaries found that they were correct according to the agreement. Sir Mubarak then made a short speech stating that it was only with the consent of the British Government that he was able to dispose of land to foreigners, but that as they had no objection in this case he had pleasure in presenting to the Mission free of charge a further portion of land 30 Dhiras by 200 in extent. This brings the total area of the plot to 200 Dhiras square.

3. The incident is not of any particular political importance, but I report it for the information of the Government of India as it relates to the acquisition of Kuwait land by foreigners and to the manner in which the Shaikh regards his undertaking with Government in that connection.

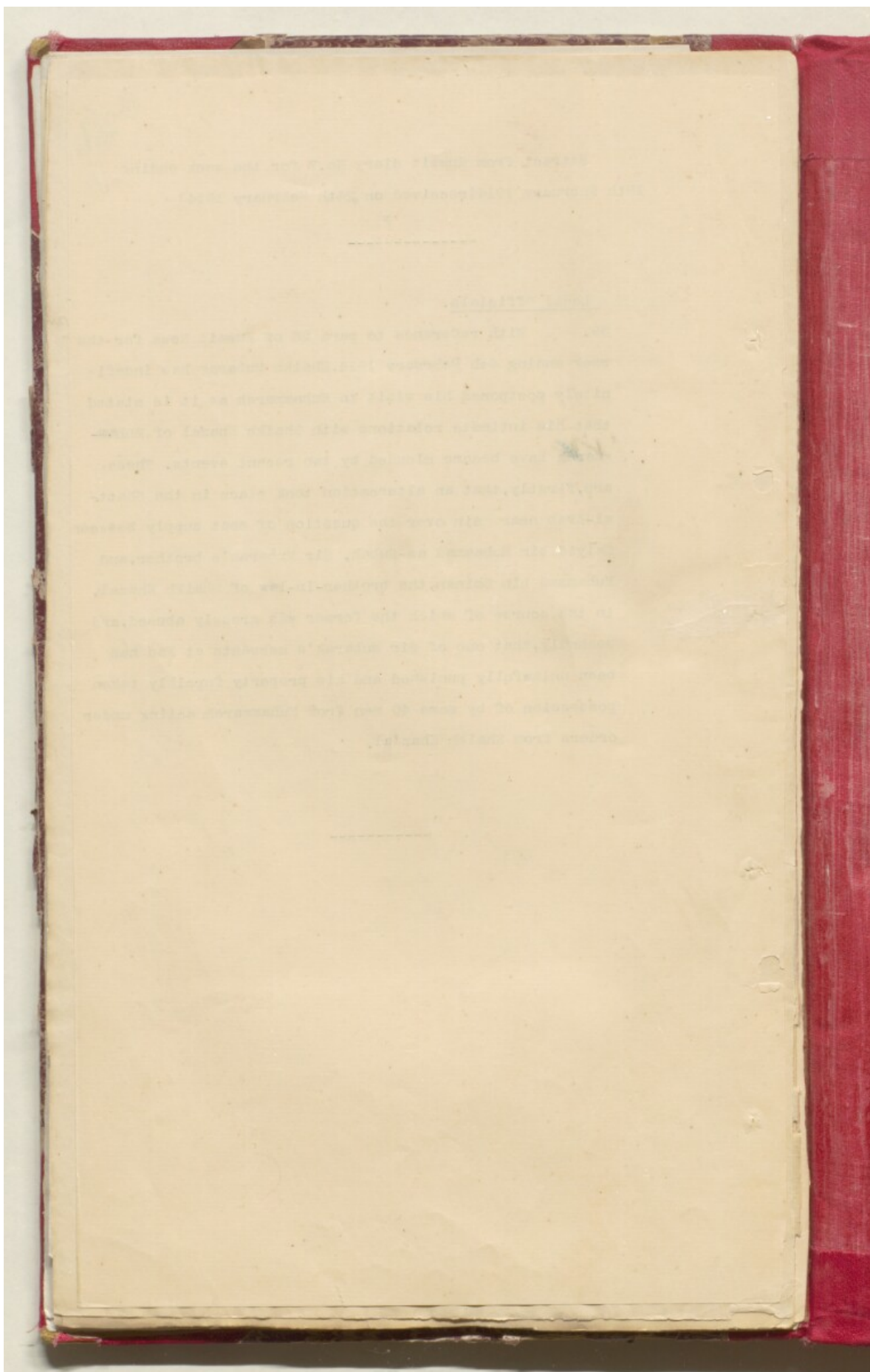




39
-40
Extract from Kuwait diary No.7 for the week ending
18th February 1914(received on 24th February 1914)

Local Officials.

39. With reference to para 25 of Kuwait News for the week ending 4th February 1914, Shaikh Mubarak has indefinitely postponed his visit to Muhammareh as it is stated that his intimate relations with Shaikh Khazal of Muhammareh have become clouded by two recent events. These are, firstly, that an altercation took place in the Shatt-al-Arab near Zein over the question of meat supply between Saiyid bin Muhammad as-Subeh, Sir Mubarak's brother, and Muhammad bin Chinan, the brother-in-law of Shaikh Khazal, in the course of which the former was grossly abused, and secondly, that one of Sir Mubarak's servants at Fao has been unlawfully punished and his property forcibly taken possession of by some 40 men from Muhammareh acting under orders from Shaikh Khaz'al.





✓ 40
16th March.

My dear Knox

We have only just got
the first news which has come
in either from or about

Shahsoor.

Writing from Zilfi on 27th Feb
he says that he is all right
so far but has met very few
people on the way and that
the Arabs generally do not
seem to be very pleased to see
him. The ~~At~~ Alairi Shaikh
Abdullah would not receive
him but sent some sheep as
a present and promised to



by and provide him with
^{an} Atairi Rafiq. He has
reached Majma'a all ^{right} right
from whence his letters ^{came} came
in his days ago, but gives
no further news.

Yours sincerely

Please place in Wherry
Shakespeare journey file which
I should like to see.

22/3/14

R

(24)

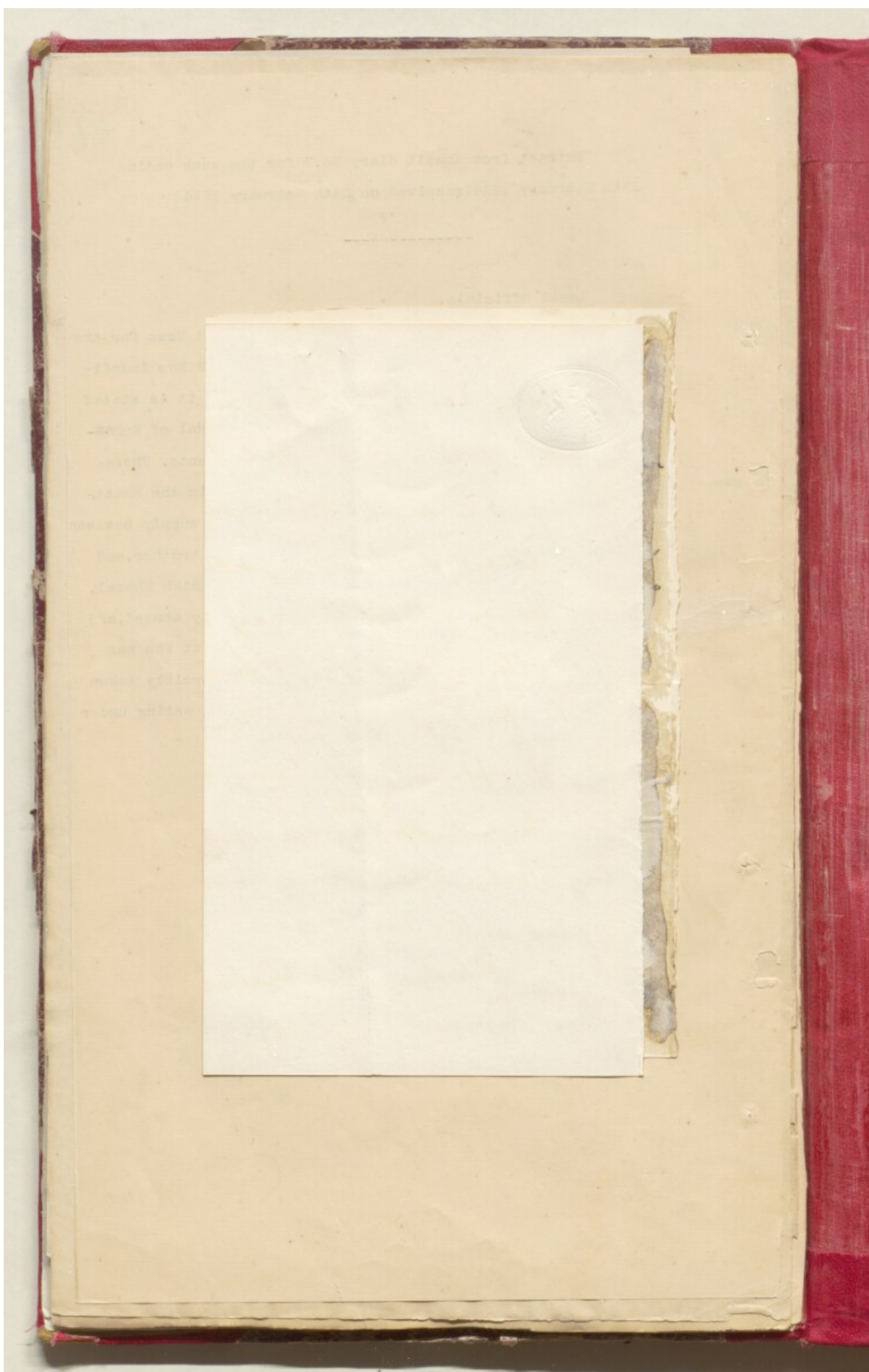


*Get. please
2/4/14 R*

March 27th 1914

(41)

Dear Knox, I enclose a letter-
addressed by Shakespeare
to Louisa, which reached
me under f.s. last Friday-
He is apparently having
an interesting trip and
enjoying it very much-
You will have seen
from my letters that
local report say, that his





(42)

Saut has been strengthening
his garrison at Kalif
and is said to be covering
down some where between
Hamm & Kalif himself some
with a good strong force.

However he may change
his plans if he hears that
there is ^{not much} ~~too~~ chance of the
Turks making an attack
just now.

Approach of the Shahrban
reference to ships, only



smaller than like the Arab
a Makin could get near
Katif I believe -

Yours sincerely

A. Brown

P.S. The weather is decent
and I can get rid of glass
etc I hope to go over to Katif
in Friday night - I wanted to
do before but the lately I have
stayed here on account of the
introduction of the new landing
arrangements - I hope they will
be all right now - G.P. have started
& thus we have scotched local opposition



(43)
43

A copy of a letter dated the 10th March 1914 at Camp XXVIII at Riyadh, from Captain W.H.I. Shakespear, to the Political Resident Bushire.

Please observe the address above! I got here yesterday with my camels nearly done out owing to want of grazing as the whole of my route was through country which had had no rain before I reached it. My trip so far has been full of interest geographically. From Kuwait to Rigai, thence along the whole course of the Batin until Ajibba (not in map) but on the Buraidah road. I shall be able to tell you all about the Wadi ar-Rumail connection with the Batin now - then south and east to Zilfi. So far this route has not been travelled before. From Zilfi to Majma'a along an untravelled route, from Majma'a the ordinary route through the Sadair villages to Hasi thence unexplored via Baubem to Riyadh, where I camped by the Shaikh's gardens to the north of the town. I am having a sort of Royal Duke's progress and if the present state of affairs continues I shall soon be able to set up as a Bedouin Chief on my own with quite a respectable flock of sheep!

The Bin Sa'ud are overwhelming in their kindness, forethought and friendliness. I had not been camped an hour before two huge buck-niggers stationed as police to drive off inquisitive small boys etc; loads of firewood, green stuff for camels, sheep, rice etc for the men all ~~xxxx~~ arrived in about another hour with a mare for me to ride. After a wash and change I rode in in the moonlight into the town by the big East Gate and got as warm a welcome from 'Abdul Aziz and his brothers as I could possibly have wished. This morning I was taken to call on Bin Sa'ud's father, the Imam 'Abdur Rahman whom I found a delightfully courteous and friendly old gentleman, rather a surprise as he ^{was} supposed to be a very austere and severe type of Archbishop.

It is bad luck but I can't attempt anything further south
and



A copy of a letter dated the 10th March 1914 at Camp
XXVIII at Baghdad, from Captain W.H.I. Chakraverty, to the
Political Resident Baghdad.

Please observe the address above: I got news yesterday
with my camera nearly done out owing to grating as
the whole of my route was through country which had no
rain before I reached it. My trip so far has been full of
interest geographically from Mosul to Bagdad, along
the whole course of the Tigris (not in map) but
on the Baghdad road. I shall be able to tell you all about
the Wadi ar-Rumail connection with the Tigris now - then south
and east to Eridi. For this route has not been travelled
before. From Eridi to Bagdad along an untravelled route, from
Bagdad's the original route through the Bagdad villages to
Haji thence unexplored via Haidar to Bagdad, where I camped
by the Shatt al-Arab to the north of the town. I am having
a sort of Royal Duke's progress and it the present state of
affairs continues I shall soon be able to set up as a Bedouin
Chief on my own with quite a respectable flock of sheep!
The Bedouins are overwintering in their kindness, fore-
thought and friendliness. I had not been camped an hour before
two huge black-niggers appeared as police to drive off indu-
lgent small boys etc; loads of firewood, green stuff for
cattle, sheep, rice etc for the men all arrived in
about another hour with a mare for me to ride. After a wash
and change I rode up in the middle of the town by the
big East Gate and got a warm welcome from 'Abdu Aziz and
his brothers as I could possibly have wished. This morning I
was taken to call on Bin Salim's father, the Imam 'Abdu
Hussein whom I found a delightfully courteous and friendly old
gentleman, rather a surprise as he appeared to be a very
severe type of Arabist.
It is bad luck but I can't attempt anything further south
and



44⁴⁸
and shall go north again by the Dariyah Tharaidah, Shaqra, Wadi-as-Sirr, road to Anaizah and Buraidah; most of the road through Washm is unexplored I believe.

Why I can't go south is (a) my camels are so done out that they must have 4 or 6^{days}/complete rest with high feeding and then only short marches until I can either change them in Qasim or strike good grazing there, (b) Bin Sa'ud has called out all his southern raiding contingents (c) Bin Sa'ud himself is leaving on the 12th March to join the whole of his forces in the desert east and north, somewhere in the Bahana near Judah, and (d) the desert south in Hautahl and Aflaj has had no rain and is as bare as one's hand. It is bad luck but can't be helped and I must try and make up for it by exploring elsewhere - as it is I have a heap of new material.

Bin Sa'ud has called out his raiding parties, ostensibly for his usual Spring raids on Bedouin, but really as he told me in confidence because he does not want to be caught napping by the Turks at Qatif or 'Oqair. The reason is that he has had information (a fortnight after I left Kuwait) that a Russian steamer which must have arrived in Basrah now was bringing out 1500 European Turkish troops with the new Wali Suliman Nathif - that these troops ~~will~~ may be intended for a dash on Qatif and Hasa. I pity them if they do land and are not covered by a man-of-war's guns as Bin Sa'ud has about 5000 or 6000 more or less trained men, besides clouds of Bedouins and he will probably pin them to the coast and then suddenly wipe them out. Anyway he is taking no chances.

He is awaiting an answer from Government most anxiously anent the conference we had at 'Oqair in December, and if I may venture to suggest it, it will be well worth our while to give him some sort of reassuring hint as soon as possible. He tried to pump me as to what would be our line, were he to agree to the Turkish request for the exclusion of foreigners and all direct relations with them or their Governments. I told him I was on leave and knew nothing of our probable attitude



44v

and shall go north again by the Darbyh Tharidah, Chaghr,
Wadi-an-Nir, Wadi to Anzakh and Buzaidah, west of the
road through Wadih is unexplored I believe.
Why I can't go south is (a) my camels are so done out that
they must have 4 or 5 complete rest with high feeding and then
only about marches until I can either change them in Qasim
or strike good grazing there, (b) Bin Sa'ud has called out
all his southern raiding contingents (c) Bin Sa'ud himself
is leaving on the 12th March to join the whole of his forces
in the desert east and north, somewhere in the Bahana near
Tubah, and (d) the desert south in Hantah and Alfat has had
no rain and is as bare as one's hand. It is bad luck but can't
be helped and I must try and make up for it by exploring else-
where - as it is I have a heap of new material.
Bin Sa'ud has called out his raiding parties, ostensibly
for his Naqal Spring raids on Bedouin, but really as he told
me in confidence because he does not want to be caught napping
by the Turks at Qatif or 'Oqair. The reason is that he has had
information (a fortnight after I left Kuwait) that a Russian
steamer which must have arrived in Bahana now was bringing out
1500 European Turkish troops with the new well equipped British
that these troops will be intended for a dash on Qatif
and Haam. I pity them if they do land and are not covered by
a man-of-war's guns as Bin Sa'ud has about 5000 or 6000 more
or less trained men, besides clouds of Bedouin and he will
probably pin them to the coast and then suddenly wipe them
out. Anyway he is taking no chances.
He is waiting an answer from Government most anxiously
about the conference we had at 'Oqair in December, and if I
may venture to suggest it, it will be well worth our while to
give him some sort of reassuring hint as soon as possible.
He tried to pump me as to what would be our line, were he to
agree to the Turkish request for the exclusion of foreigners
and all direct relations with them or their Governments. I
told him I was on leave and knew nothing of our probable at-
titude

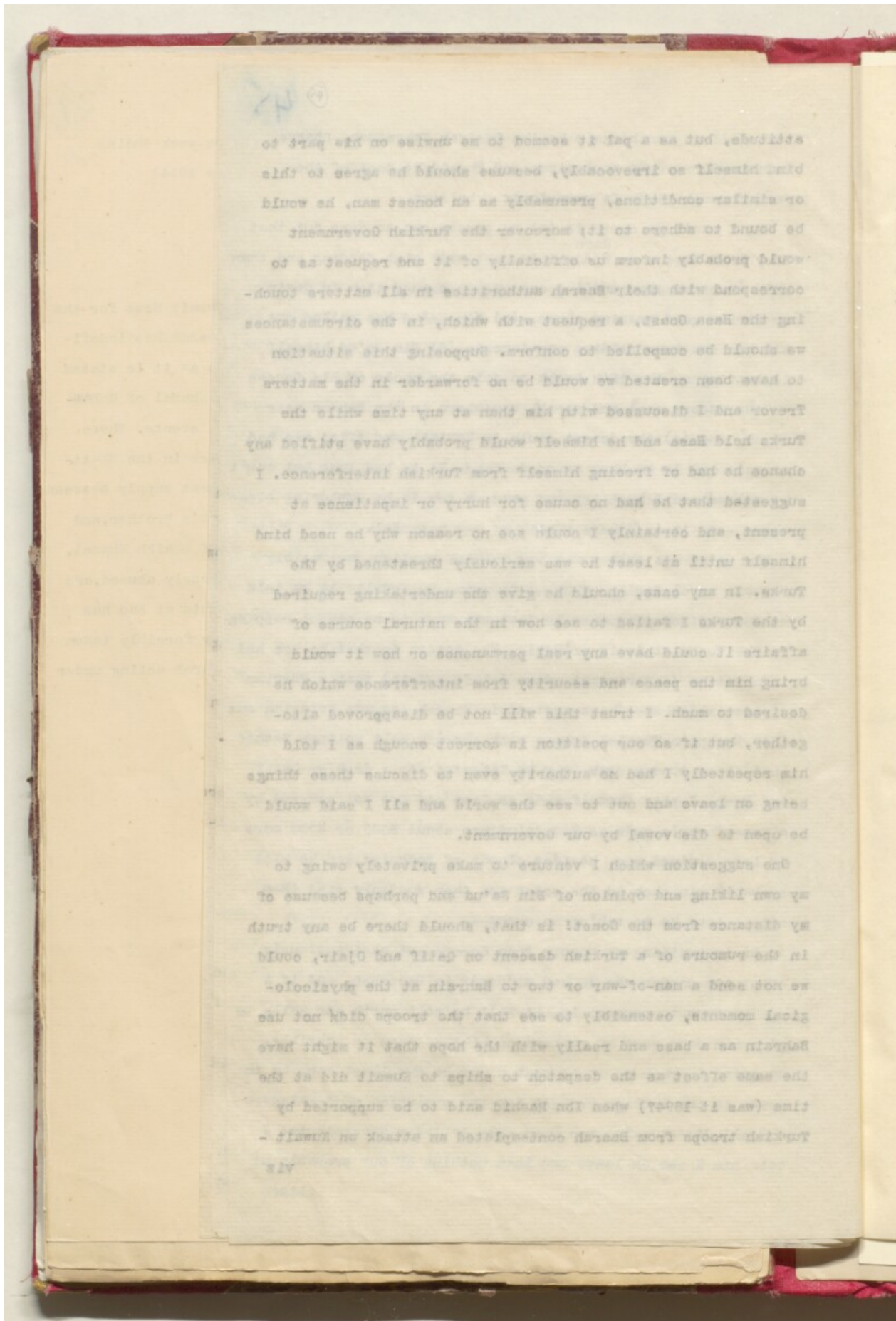


45

attitude, but as a pal it seemed to me unwise on his part to bind himself so irrevocably, because should he agree to this or similar conditions, presumably as an honest man, he would be bound to adhere to it; moreover the Turkish Government would probably inform us officially of it and request as to correspond with their Basrah authorities in all matters touching the Hasa Coast, a request with which, in the circumstances we should be compelled to conform. Supposing this situation to have been created we would be no forwarder in the matters Trevor and I discussed with him than at any time while the Turks held Hasa and he himself would probably have stifled any chance he had of freeing himself from Turkish interference. I suggested that he had no cause for hurry or impatience at present, and certainly I could see no reason why he need bind himself until at least he was seriously threatened by the Turks. In any case, should he give the undertaking required by the Turks I failed to see how in the natural course of affairs it could have any real permanence or how it would bring him the peace and security from interference which he desired to much. I trust this will not be disapproved altogether, but if so our position is correct enough as I told him repeatedly I had no authority even to discuss these things being on leave and out to see the world and all I said would be open to disavowal by our Government.

One suggestion which I venture to make privately owing to my own liking and opinion of Bin Sa'ud and perhaps because of my distance from the Coast! is that, should there be any truth in the rumours of a Turkish descent on Qatif and Qajar, could we not send a man-of-war or two to Bahrain at the psychological moments, ostensibly to see that the troops did not use Bahrain as a base and really with the hope that it might have the same effect as the despatch to ships to Kuwait did at the time (was it 1894?) when Ibn Rashid said to be supported by Turkish troops from Basrah contemplated an attack on Kuwait -

viz

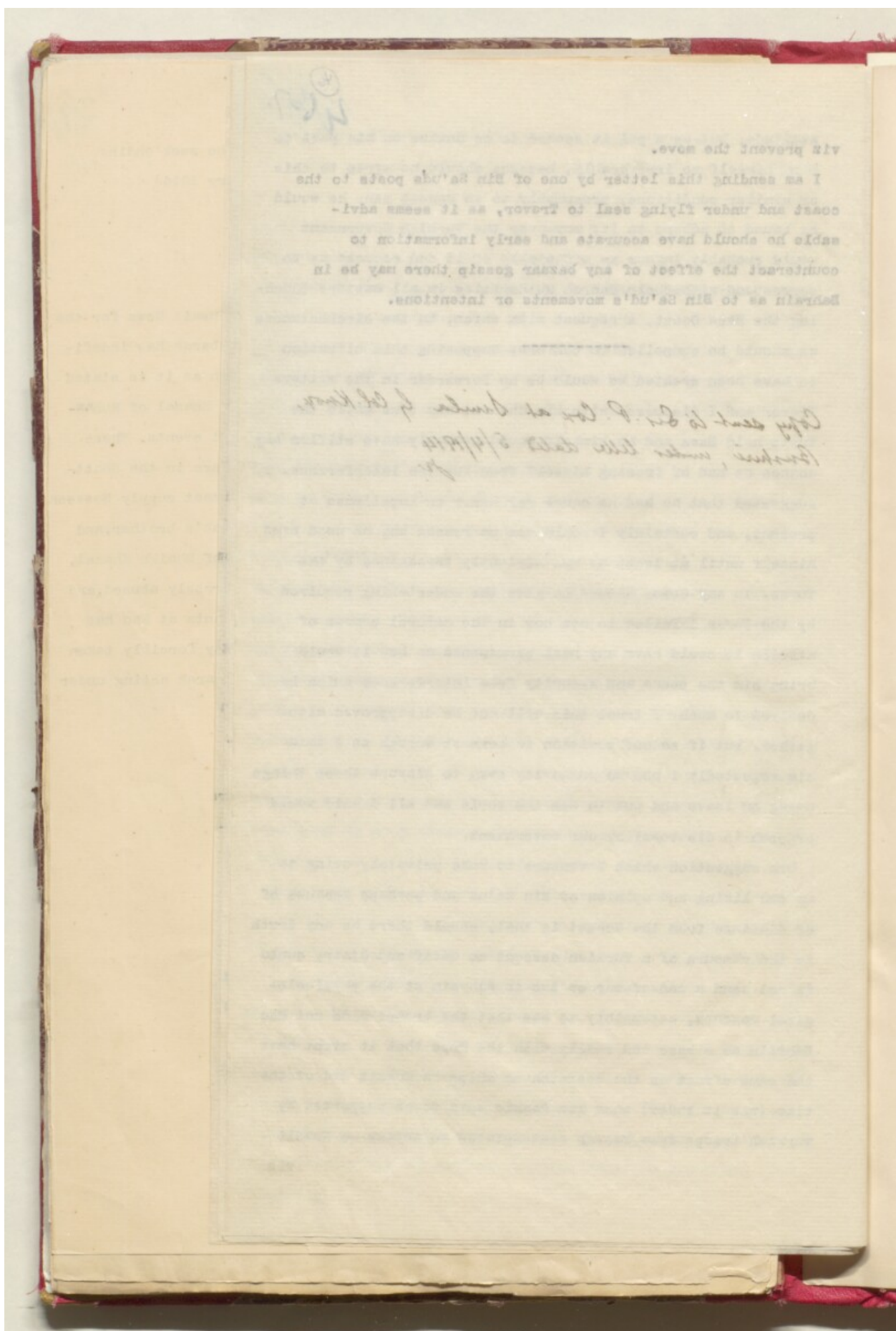


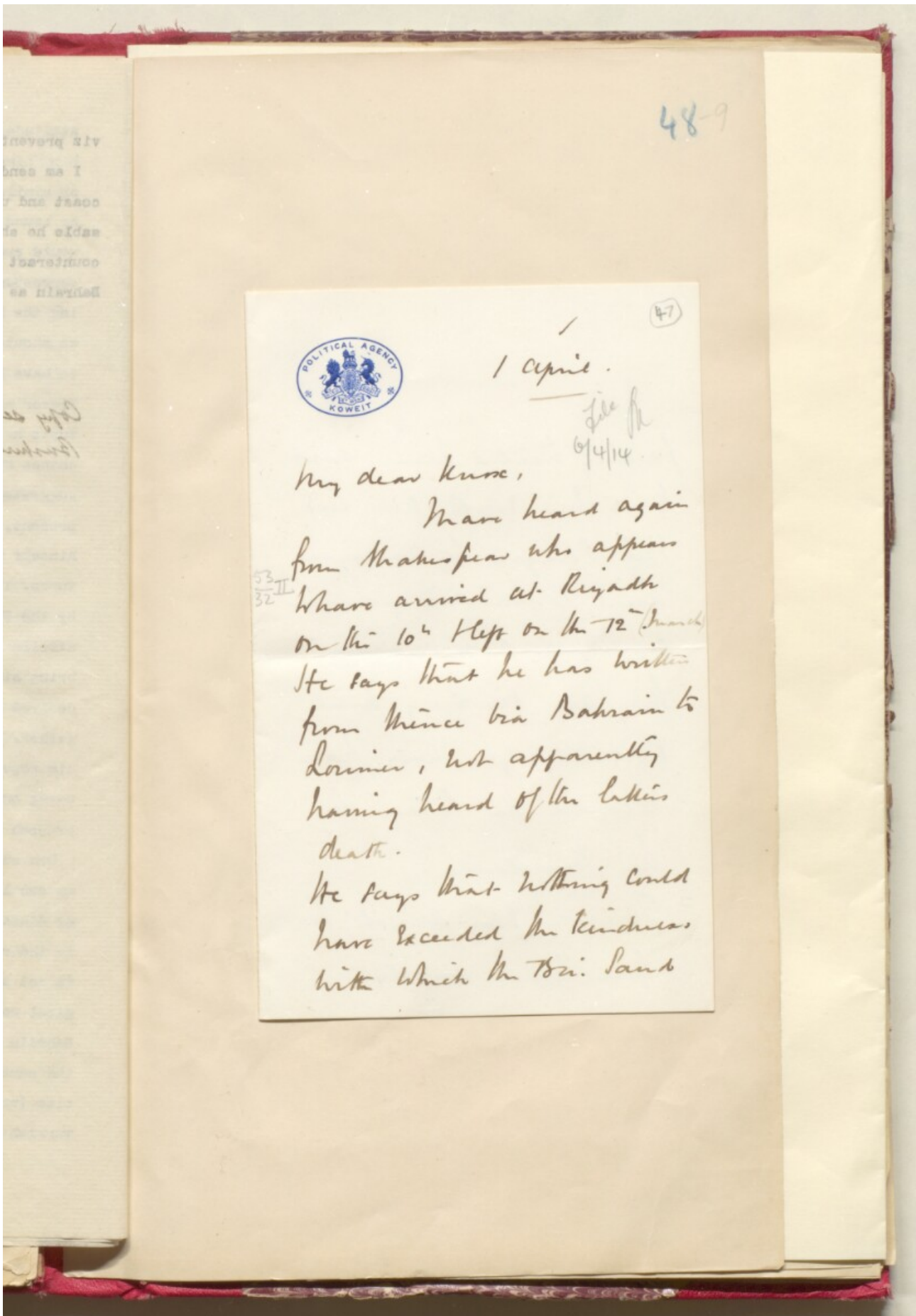


46
46-7
viz prevent the move.

I am sending this letter by one of Bin Sa'uds posts to the coast and under flying seal to Trevor, as it seems advisable he should have accurate and early information to counteract the effect of any bazaar gossip there may be in Bahrain as to Bin Sa'ud's movements or intentions.

*Copy sent to Sir P. Cox at Simla by Col. Knox,
Bushiri, under letter dated 5/4/1914
jr.*





1 April.

File R
6/4/44

My dear Kuno,

53-32 II
Have heard again
from Mafsoos who appears
to have arrived at Riyadh
on the 10th. He left on the 12th (March).
He says that he has written
from Mince via Bahrain to
Lorimer, but apparently
having heard of the latter's
death.

He says that nothing could
have exceeded the kindness
with which the Emir's



48-9

48

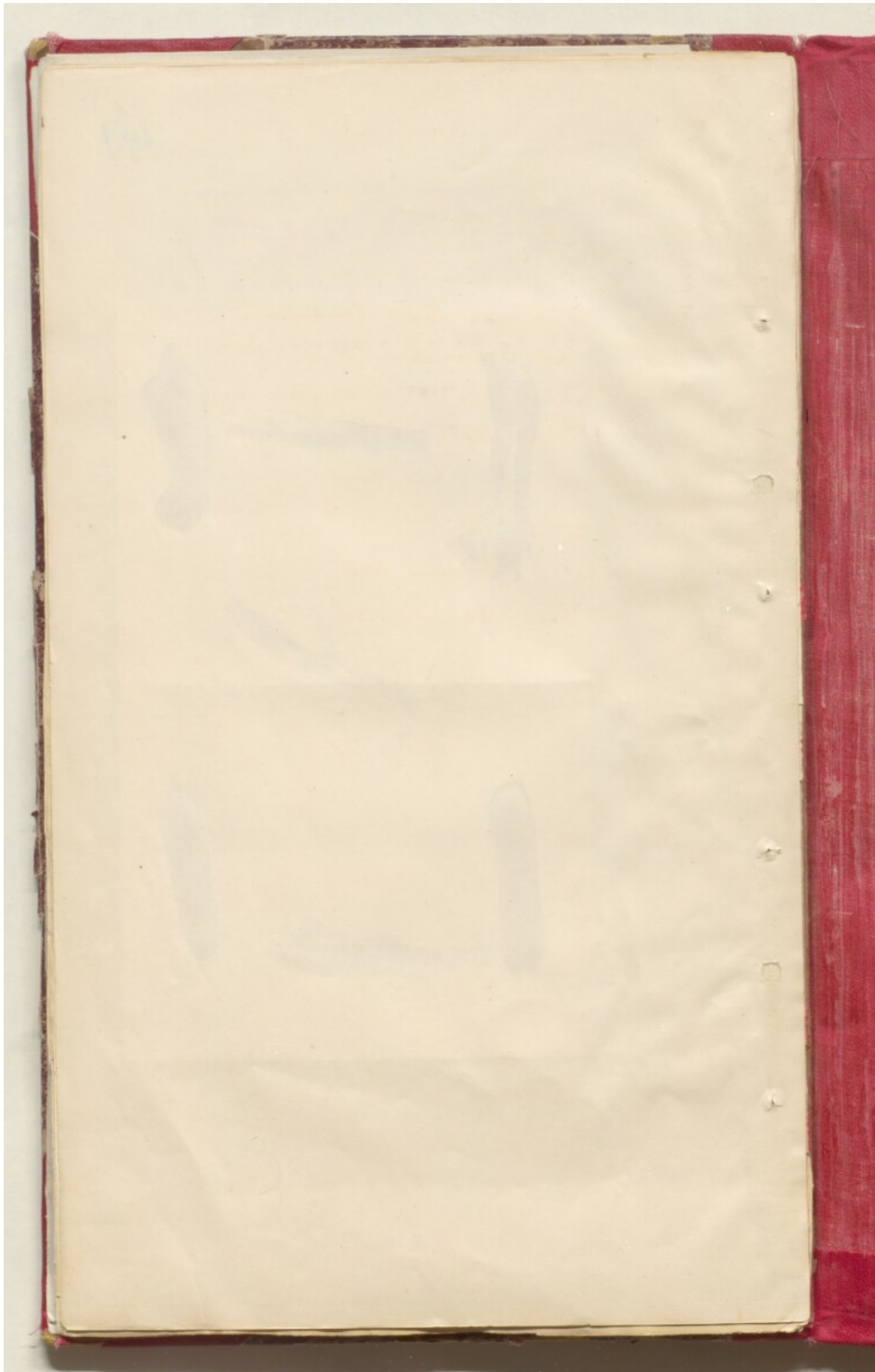
family treated him, and
that his route was his
via Shagra to Anazeh
and Buraidah, as far
as which latter place
they are sending him.
Probably you will have
received his letters for
his Residency.
Thanks very much for
your kind invitation

Wm. B. Smith -

Yours sincerely

W. B. Smith

Copy sent by Col. Knox to Major Grey,
on 6/4/14 of Capt. Shakespeare's
letter of 10th March to Mr. Hosmer.
Jc.





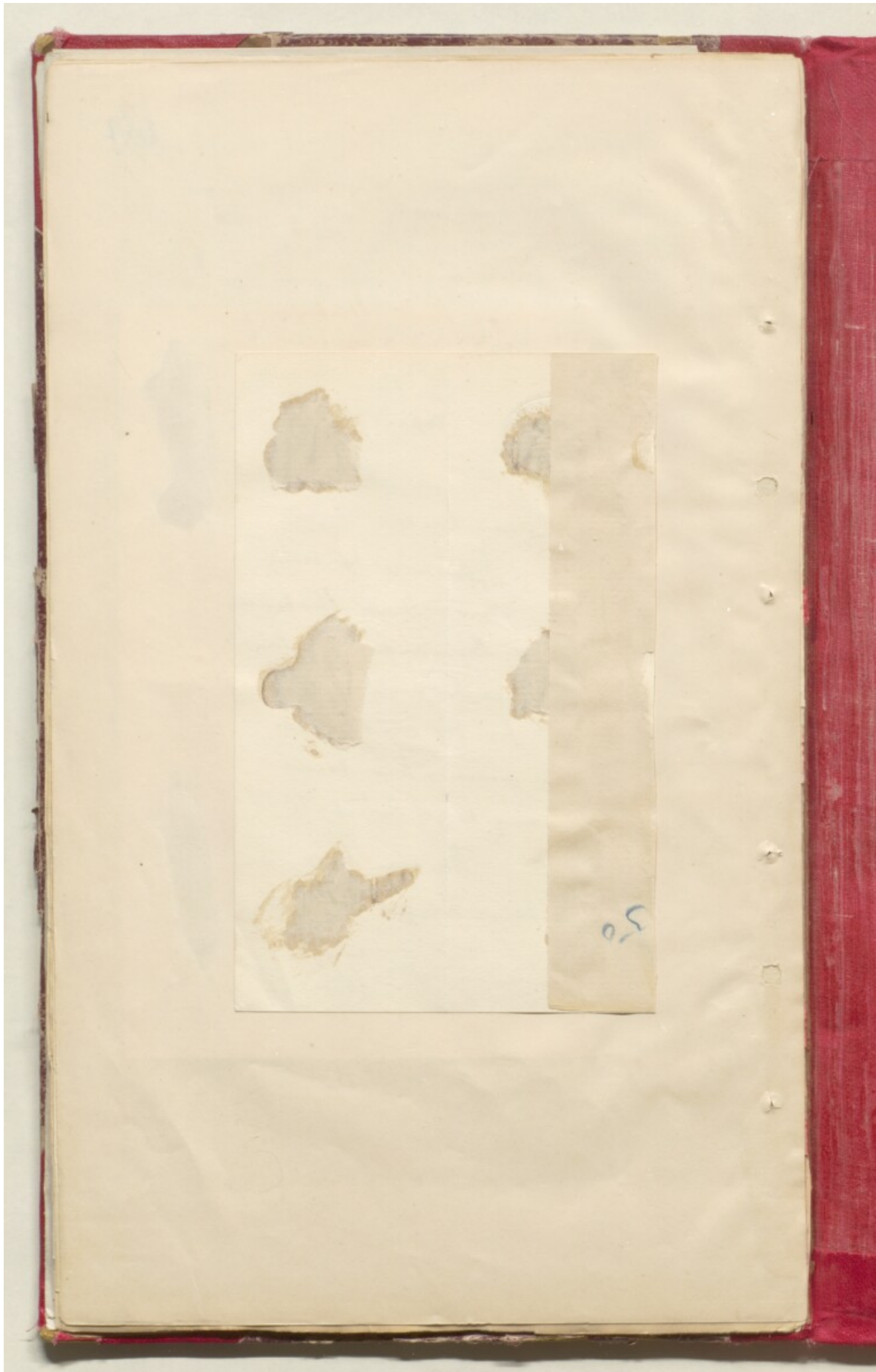
1
April 14th.

File 53/32

My dear Kuno. 21/4/14.

53/32 II

You will be inter-
-ested to hear that Shakespeare
was at Buraidah on the
30th whence he was sent off
on 31st for Jof and thence
to Damascus, his escort
refusing to go direct to
Egypt - He was well, but
had been obliged to get some
fresh camels for Jof.





1
O.R.C. 1583

25th April 1914.

26

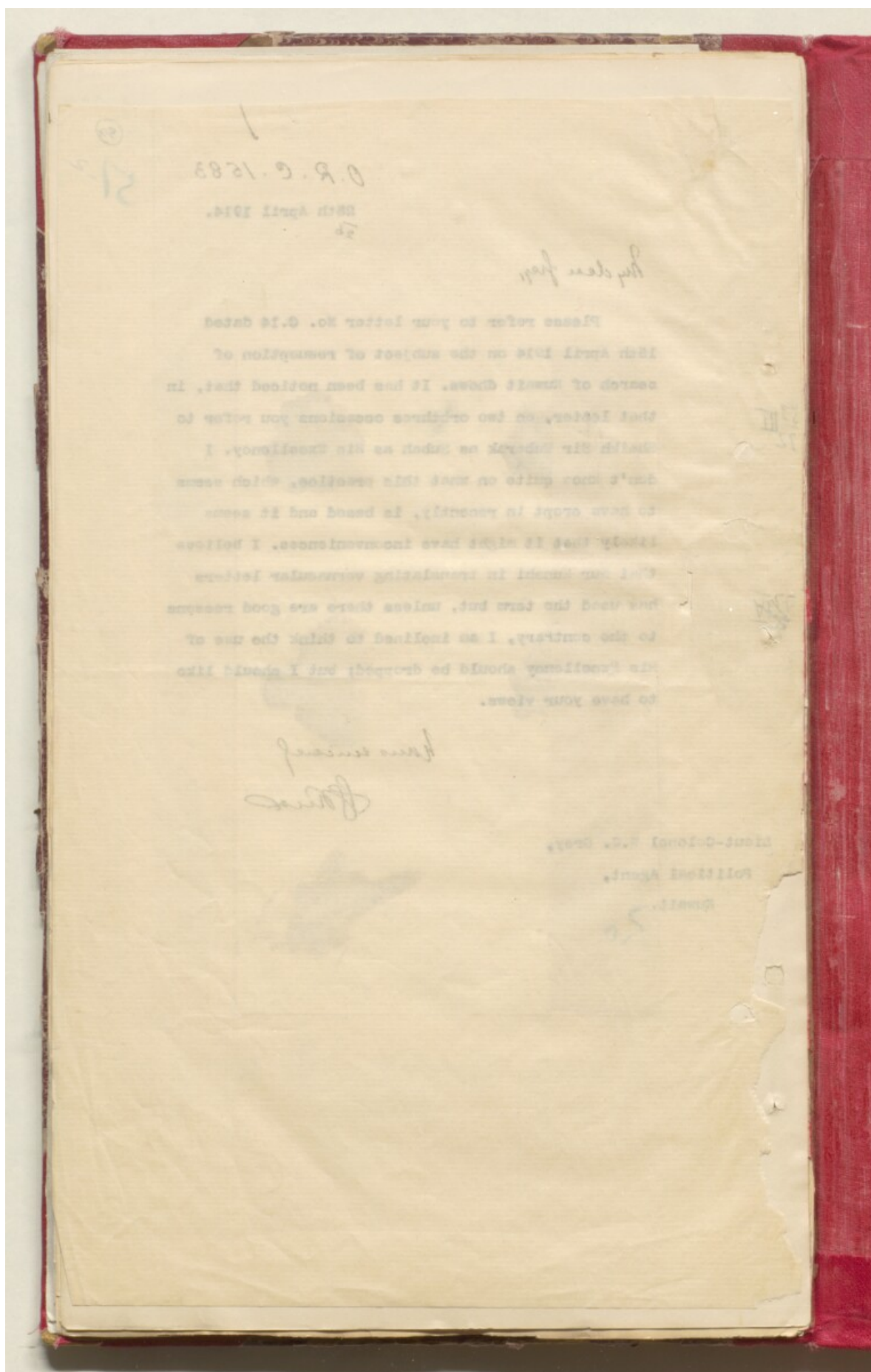
59
512

My dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter No. G.14 dated 15th April 1914 on the subject of resumption of search of Kuwait dhows. It has been noticed that, in that letter, on two or three occasions you refer to Shaikh Sir Subarak as Subah as His Excellency. I don't know quite on what this practice, which seems to have crept in recently, is based and it seems likely that it might have inconveniences. I believe that our Munshi in translating vernacular letters has used the term but, unless there are good reasons to the contrary, I am inclined to think the use of His Excellency should be dropped; but I should like to have your views.

Yours sincerely
W.G. Grey

Lieut-Colonel W.G. Grey,
Political Agent,
Kuwait.





Confidential.

Foreign and Political Department,
Simla, the 20th April 1914.

My dear Major Knox

I am desired to enclose herewith an extract from a letter from Sir L. Mallet to Sir Edward Grey, No.117, dated the 24th February 1914, from which you will observe that it is reported that the Arab nationalist element at Basra have secured the sympathy of the Shaikh of Kuwait and have established communications with him and other various local notabilities in their intrigues against the Turkish Government.

Shaikh Mubarak might be relied upon not to let himself be drawn into such intrigues; agitators no doubt find his name a convenient one to juggle with however, and it would be as well to keep the Shaikh himself informed of what is being said. I am accordingly to request you to instruct Grey to acquaint the Shaikh verbally with the manner in which his name is being dragged in and to ask him if he knows who the mischiefmaker is.

Yours sincerely

A H Grant.



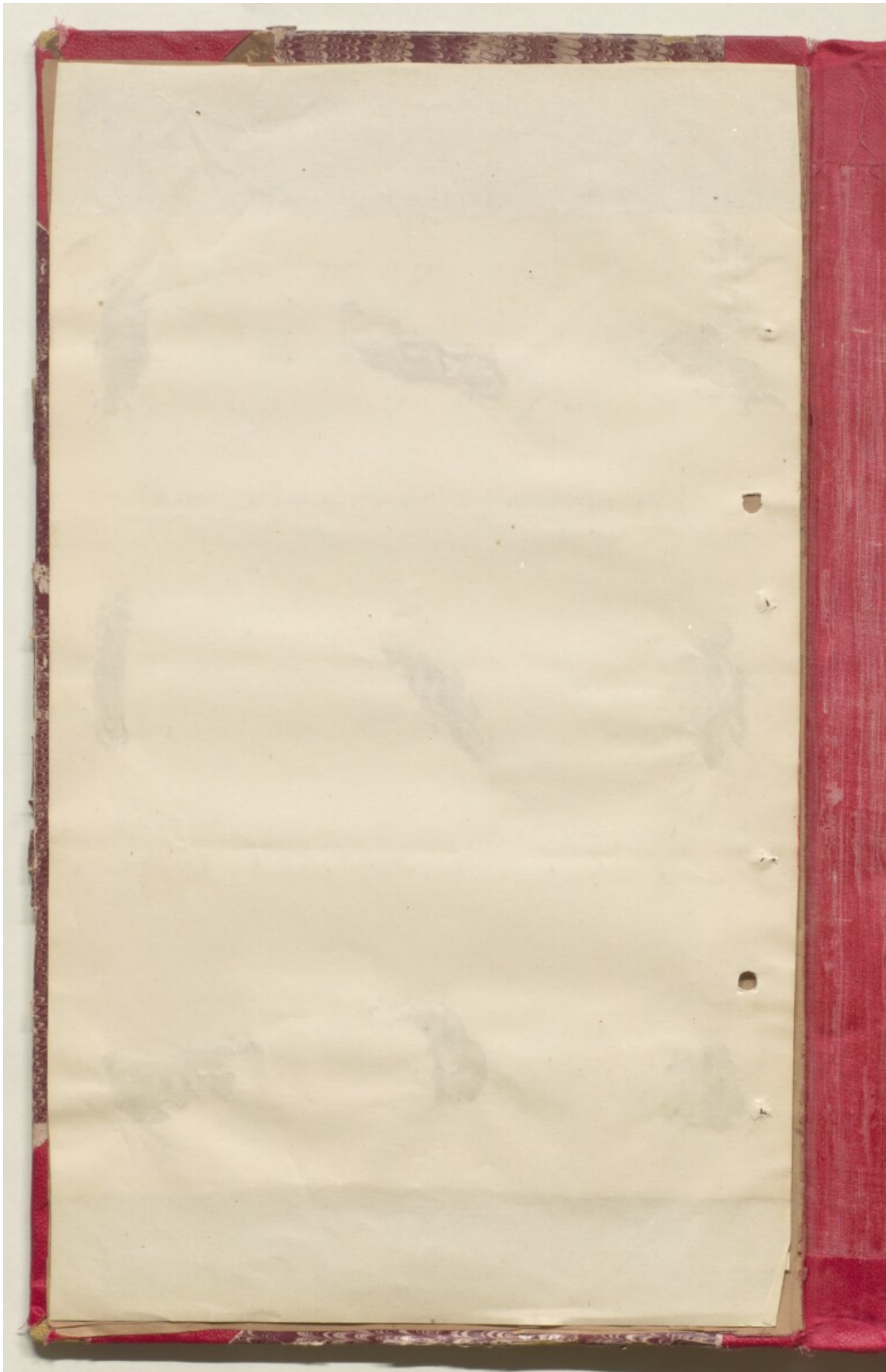
T./Kinnaird for necessary action
& reply.
✓ D.O. dated 26th 5/14

29/4/14

Major S. G. Knox, C. I. E.,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,

B u s h i r e .

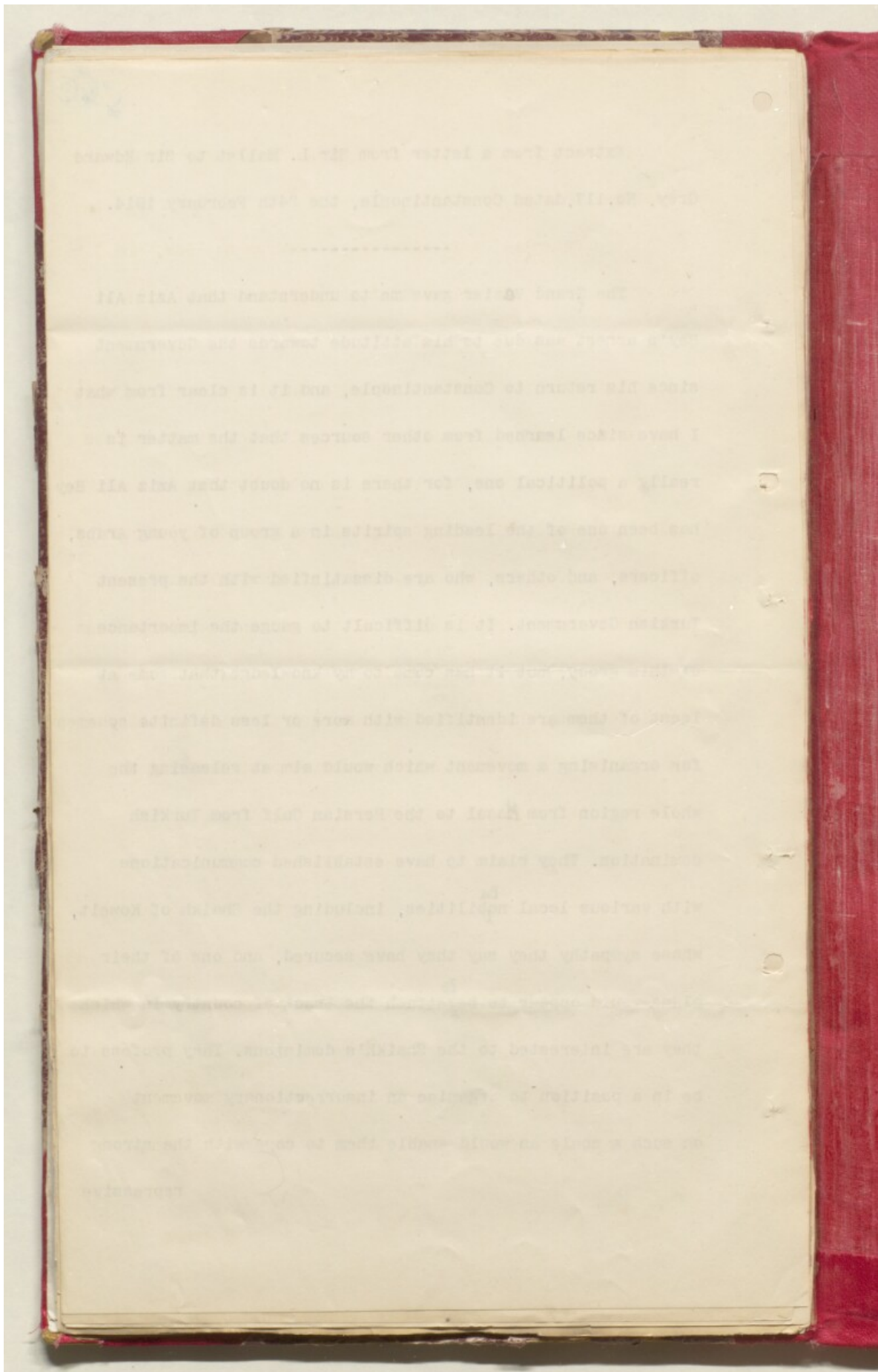




54⁶²

Extract from a letter from Sir L. Mallet to Sir Edward Grey, No.117, dated Constantinople, the 24th February 1914.

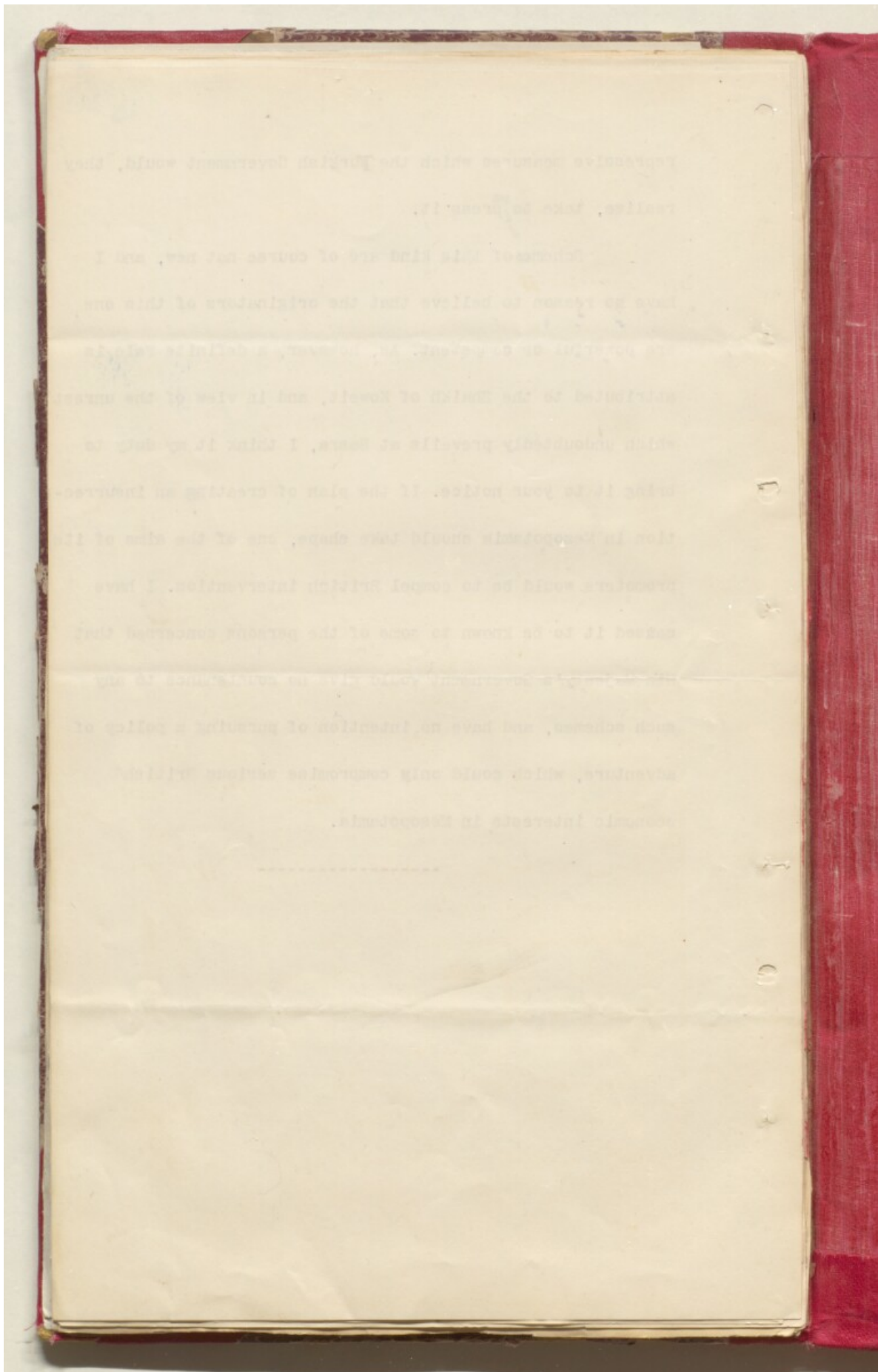
The Grand V^ézier gave me to understand that Aziz Ali Bey's arrest was due to his attitude towards the Government since his return to Constantinople, and it is clear from what I have since learned from other sources that the matter is really a political one, for there is no doubt that Aziz Ali Bey has been one of the leading spirits in a group of young Arabs, officers, and others, who are dissatisfied with the present Turkish Government. It is difficult to gauge the importance of this group, but it has come to my knowledge that some at least of them are identified with more or less definite schemes for organising a movement which would aim at releasing the whole region from ~~Mosul~~ to the Persian Gulf from Turkish domination. They claim to have established communications with various local nobilities, including the Shaikh of Koweit, whose sympathy they say they have secured, and one of their plans would appear to be ^{to} attach the tract of country in which they are interested to the Shaikh's dominions. They profess to be in a position to organise an insurrectionary movement on such a scale as would enable them to cope with the strong repressive





55
repressive measures which the Turkish Government would, they realise, take to ^{re}press it.

Schemes of this kind are of course not new, and I have no reason to believe that the originators of this one are powerful or competent. As, however, a definite role is attributed to the Shaikh of Koweit, and in view of the unrest which undoubtedly prevails at Basra, I think it my duty to bring it to your notice. If the plan of creating an insurrection in Mesopotamia should take shape, one of the aims of its promoters would be to compel British intervention. I have caused it to be known to some of the persons concerned that His Majesty's Government would give no countenance to any such schemes, and have no intention of pursuing a policy of adventure, which could only compromise serious British economic interests in Mesopotamia.





Kuwait
5 May 1914.

p 51.

My dear Knox,

Please refer to your D/O of 25/26 ult.
regarding my reference to Shaikh Si Mubarak-
as-Sabah as "His Excellency".

I fancy that Shakespeare so referred to him on a
few occasions but cannot put my hand at the
moment on any one of them. The question,
however, is connected with the translation of the
words *ʿAlī* and *ʿAlī*. The former can be
translated either by "Your Honour" or "Your
Excellency", and the latter by "Your Excellency"
or "Your Highness". Both terms are used by
Kuwaitis to this in addressing Si Mubarak
in the vernacular, and on that account, as
well as for other reasons, both should, in my
opinion, be used by us.

ʿAlī cannot be translated by "Your Honour",
thus the use of both words in translation of



vernacular correspondence is inevitable.
In English correspondence I agree with you
that "His Honour" would be sufficient.

Yours sincerely

W. H. C.



Docket Telegram (Confidential).

From Grey P.A. Kuwait:

To Knox Offg Roads Bushire.

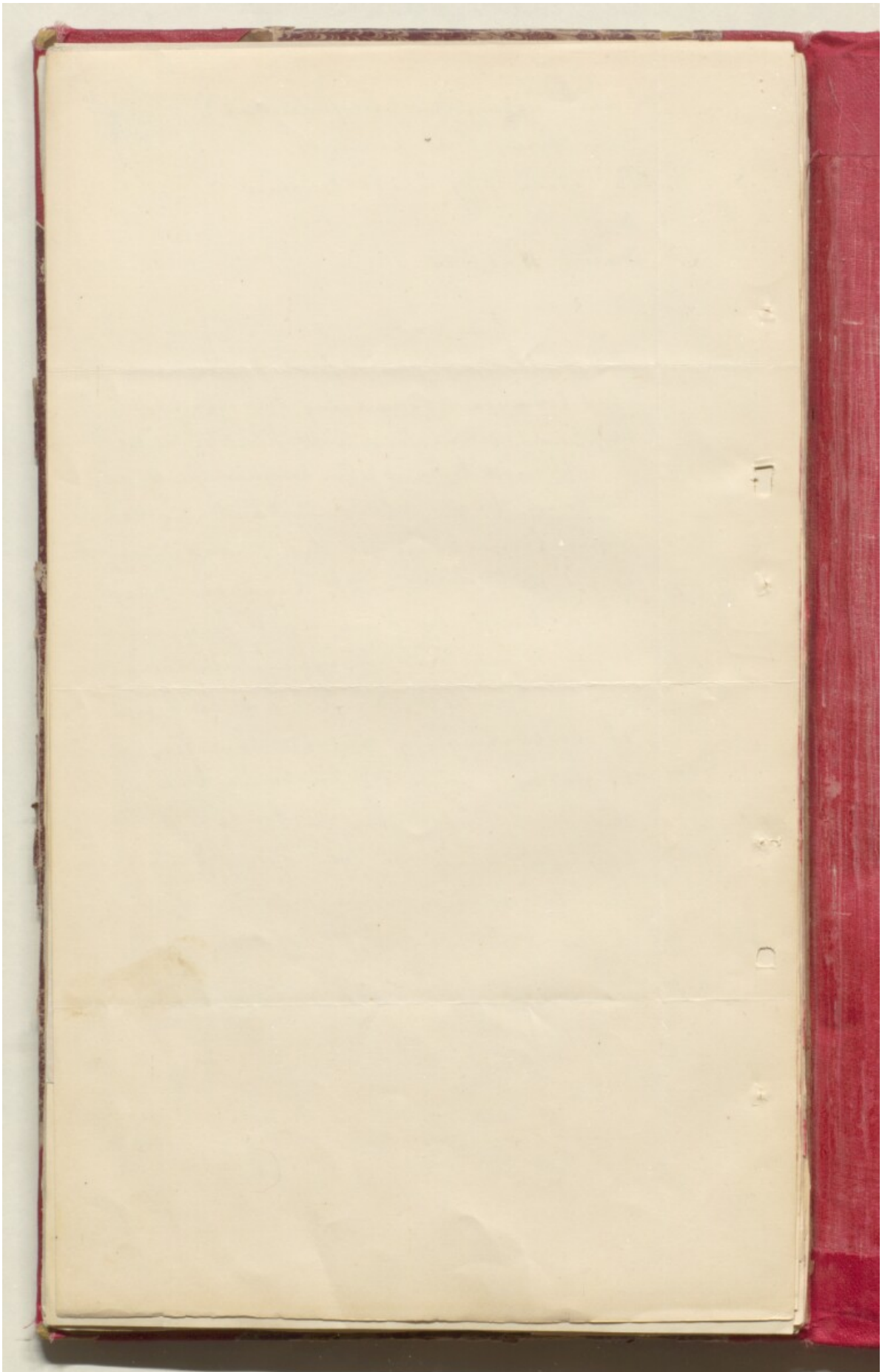
D.O.

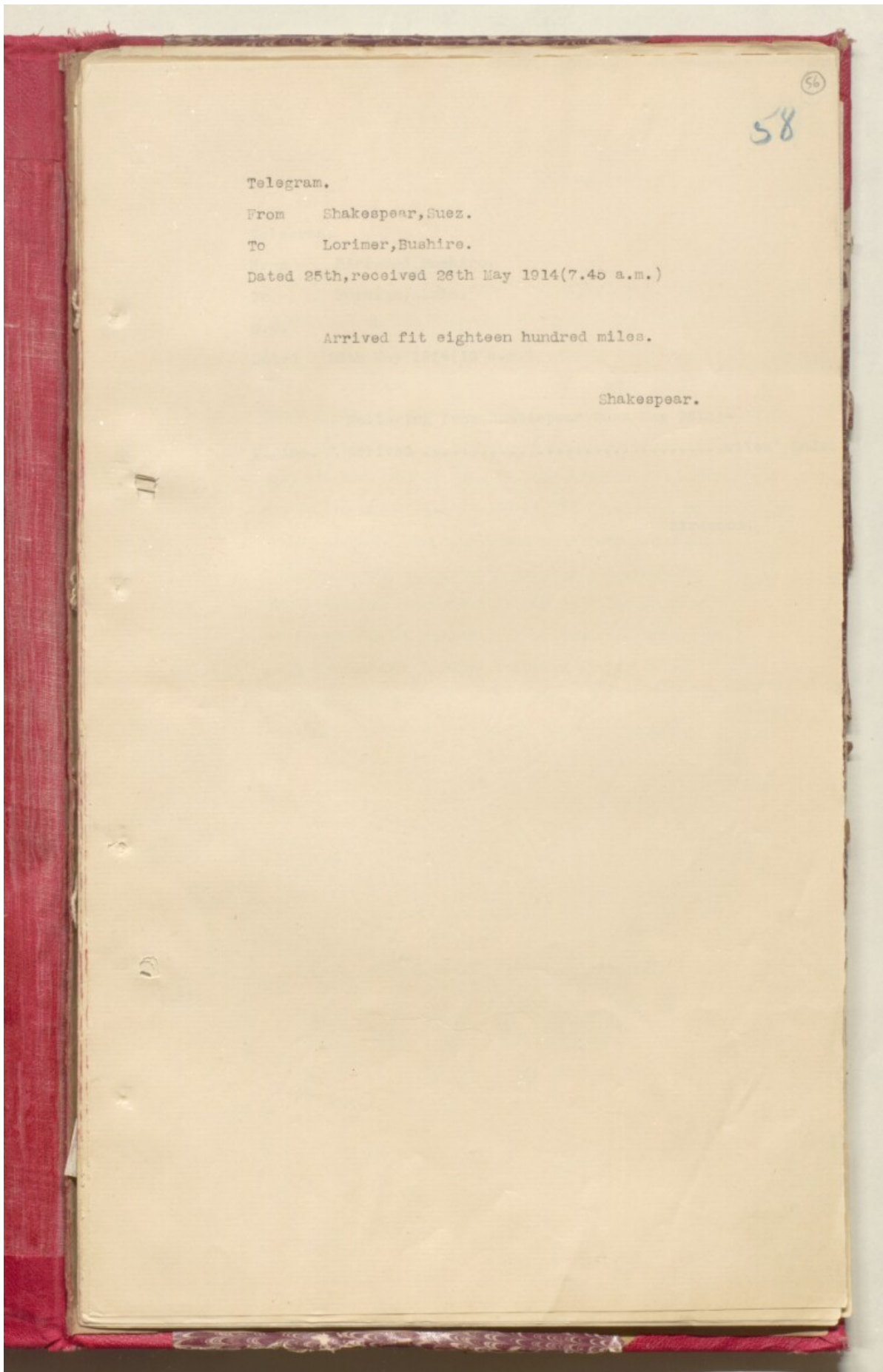
Dated 18-5-14.

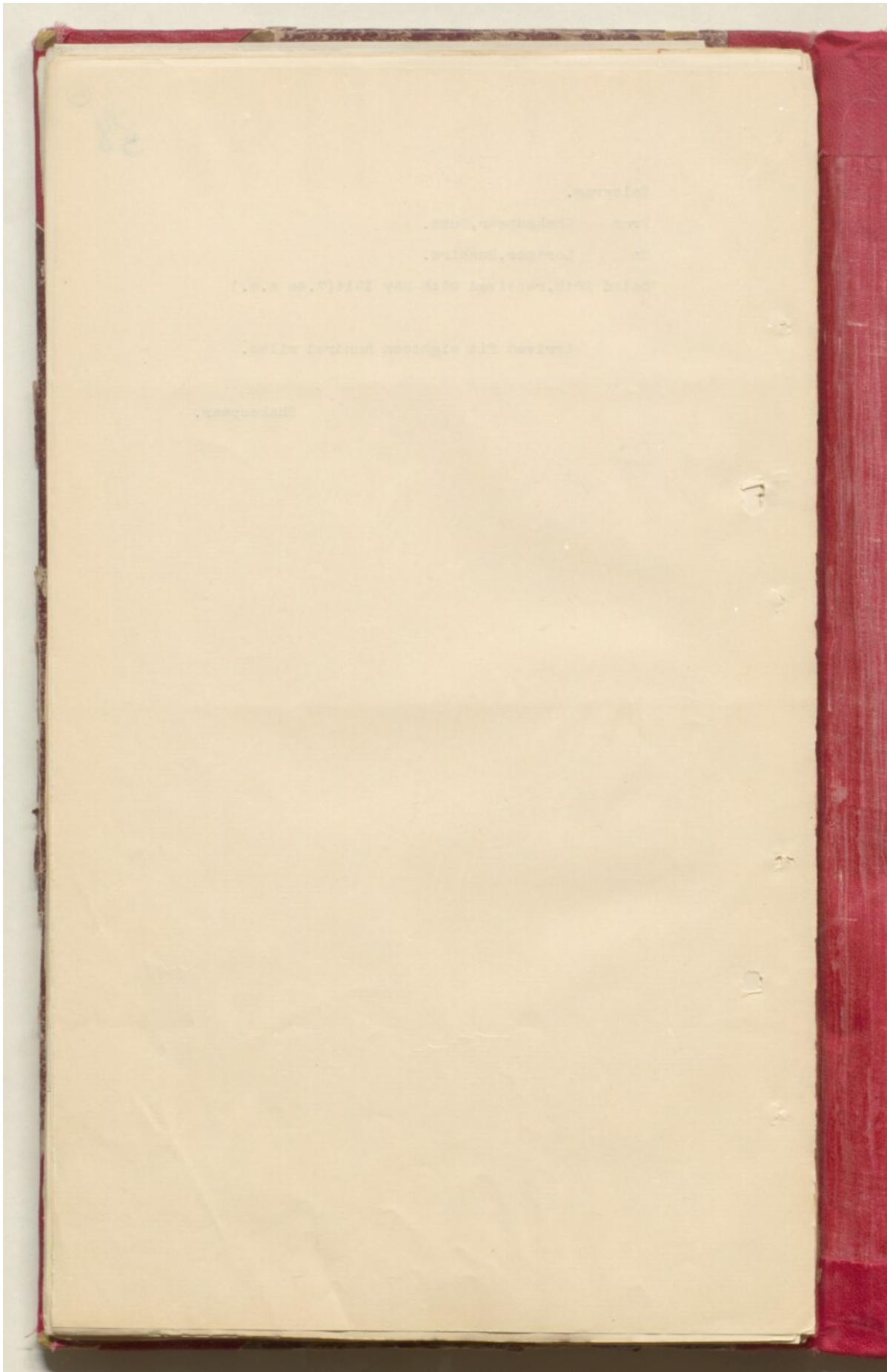
Grants' D/O of 20th April last and its
enclosures regarding Imbarak's
supposed connection with plots against Turkey.
I informed him of the matter yesterday.
He said that [although rumours reached
him from time to time regarding the
condition of Basrah and its neigh-
-bourhood he had no information
concerning the intrigues mentioned by
Sir L. Mallet, and had no intention
of encouraging or even countenancing
such movements.] On being asked who
the mischiefmaker is likely to be he
replied that the use of his name in
this connection might safely be put
down to Saïyid Palik of Basrah.

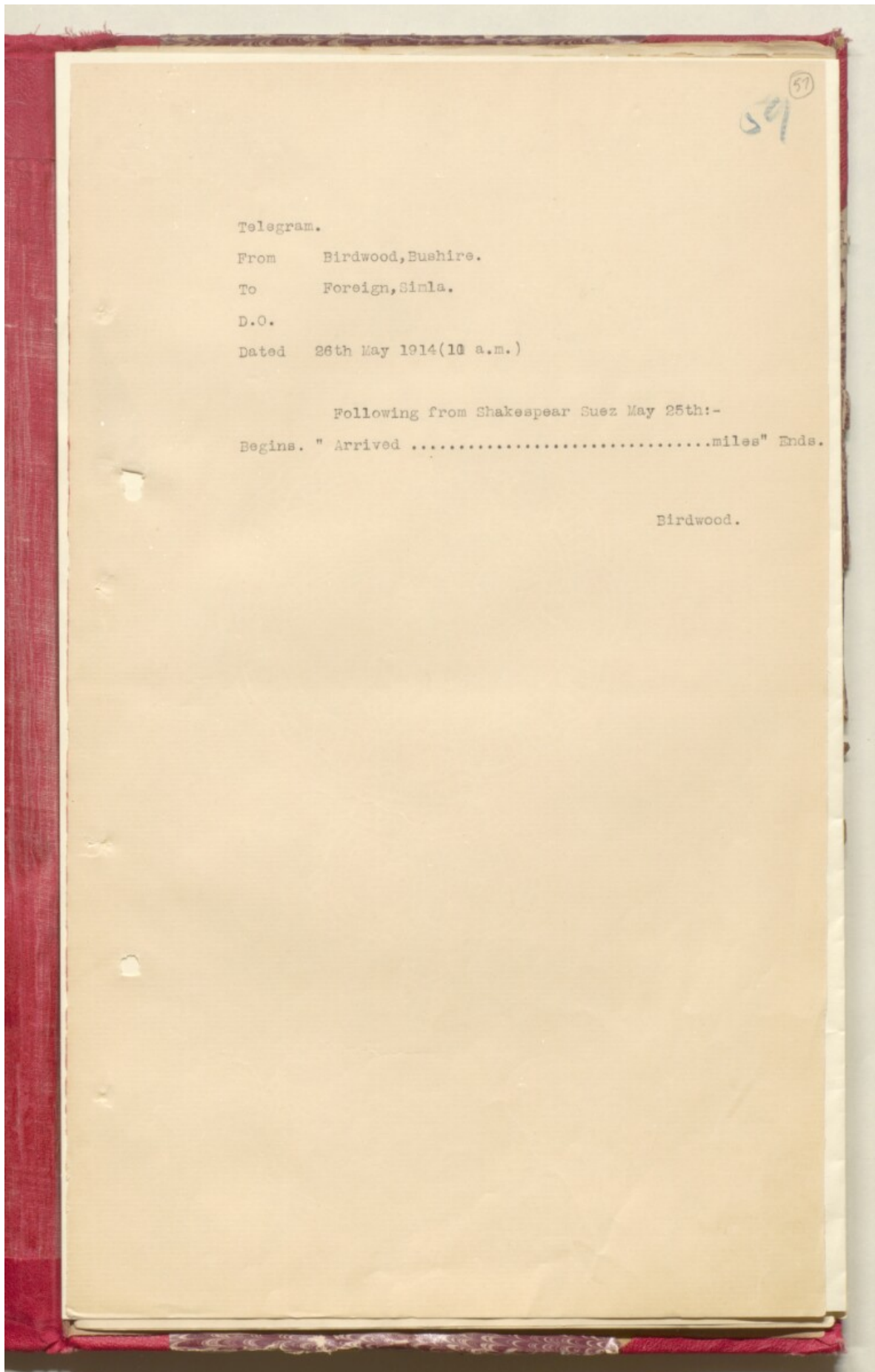
W. Grey

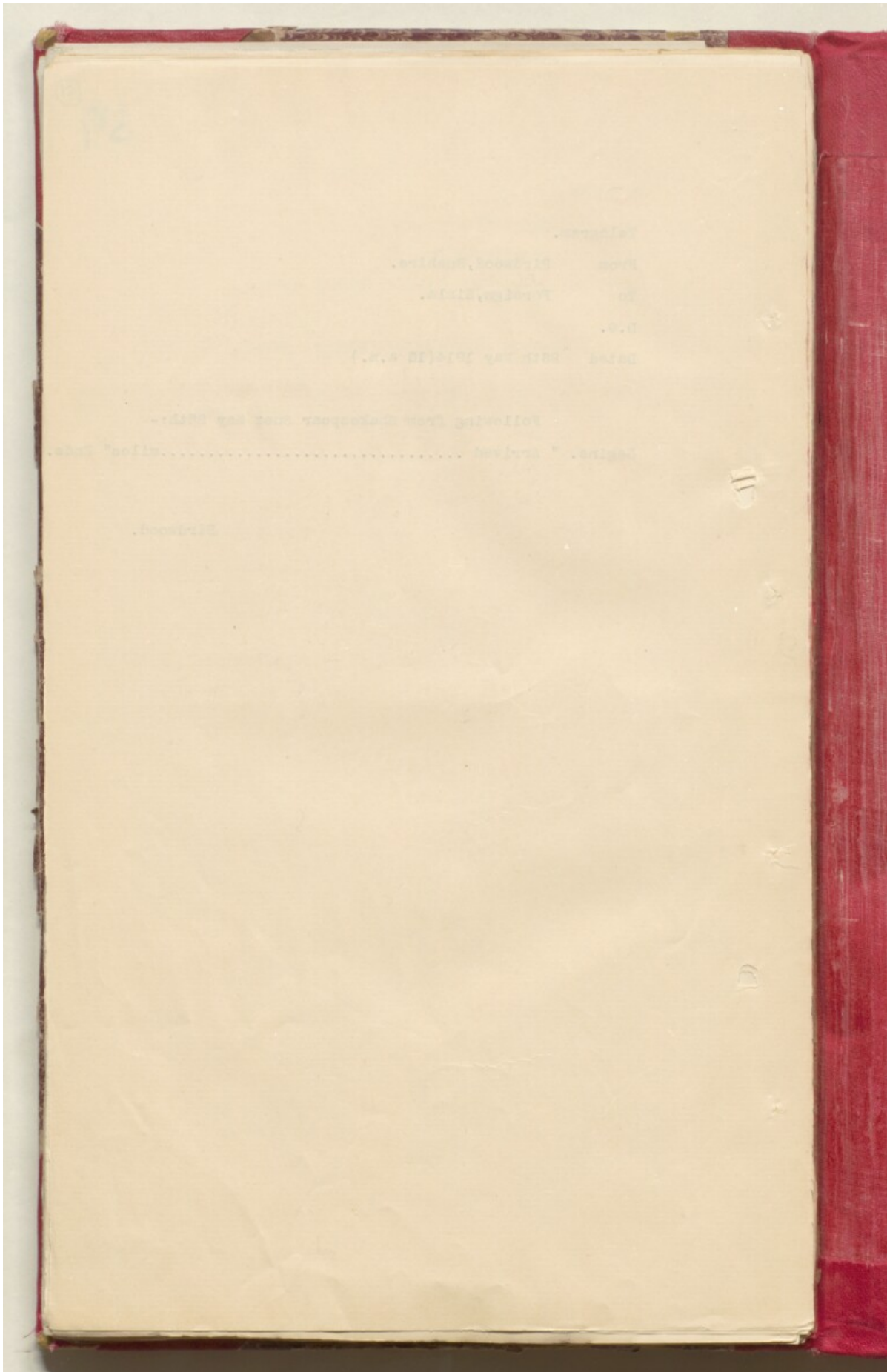
Ph
18.5.14













Confidential.

ORC 2063

60 (50)

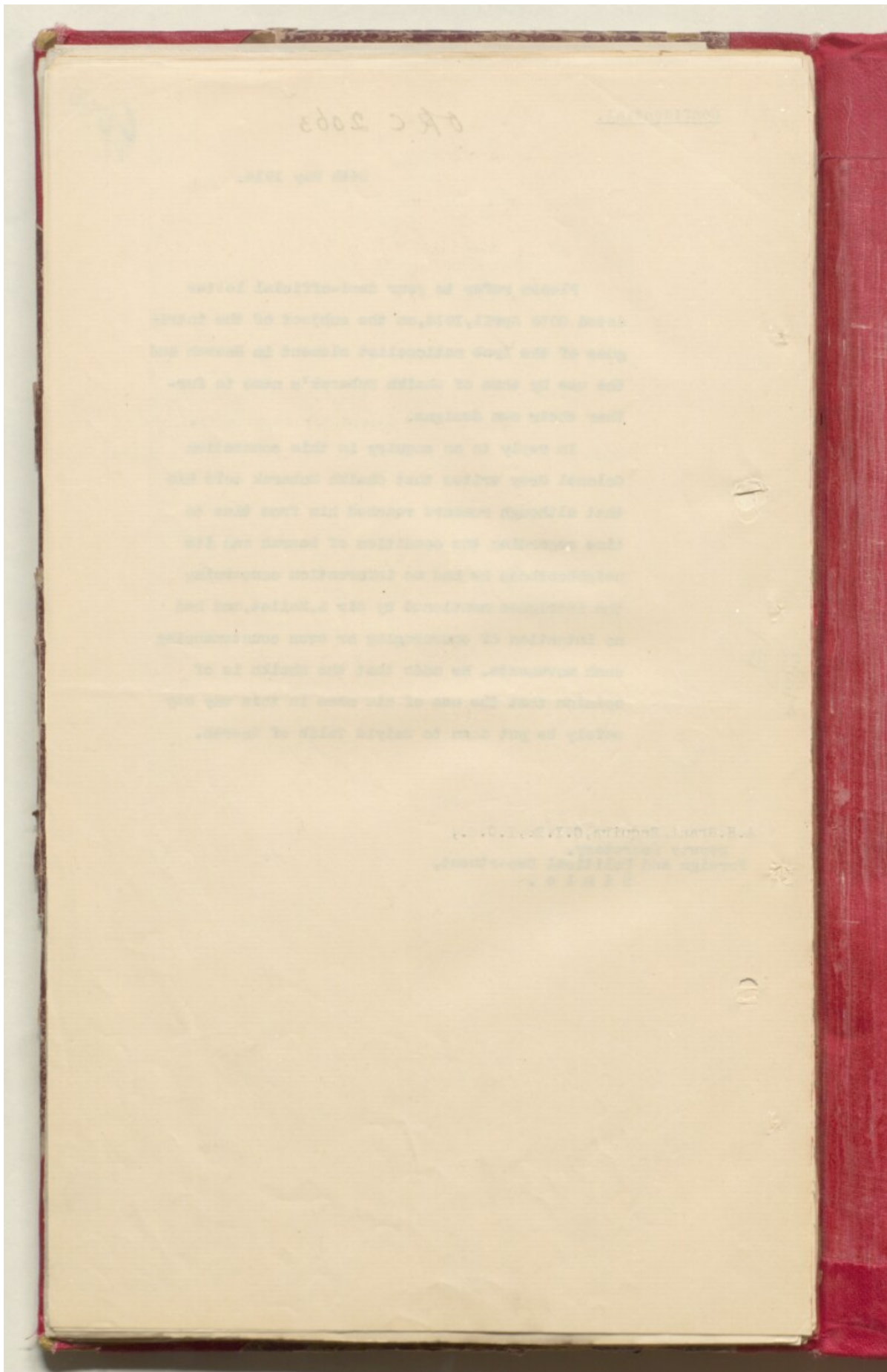
24th May 1914.

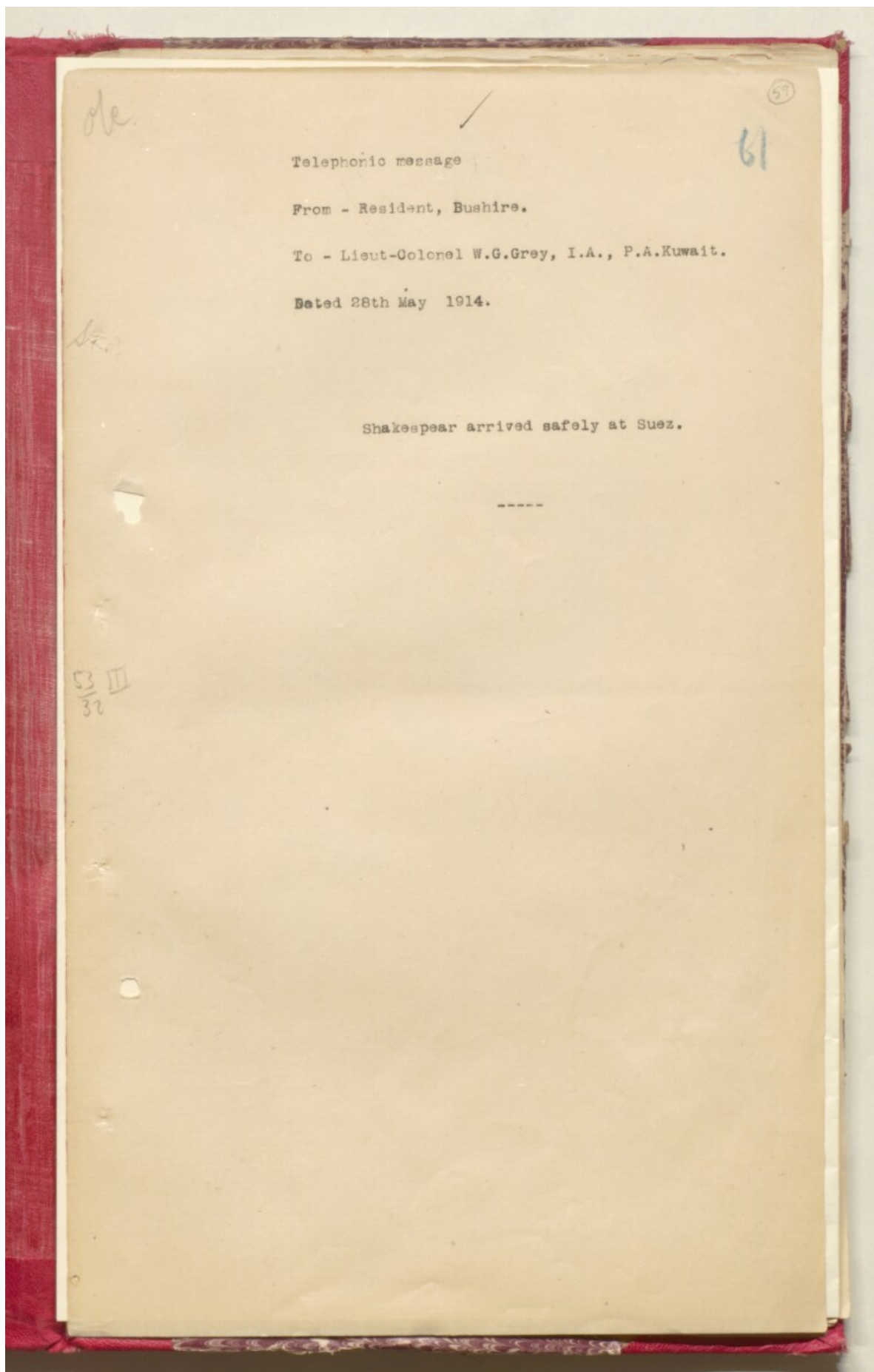
Please refer to your demi-official letter dated 20th April, 1914, on the subject of the intrigues of the Arab nationalist element in Basrah and the use by them of Shaikh Mubarak's name to further their own designs.

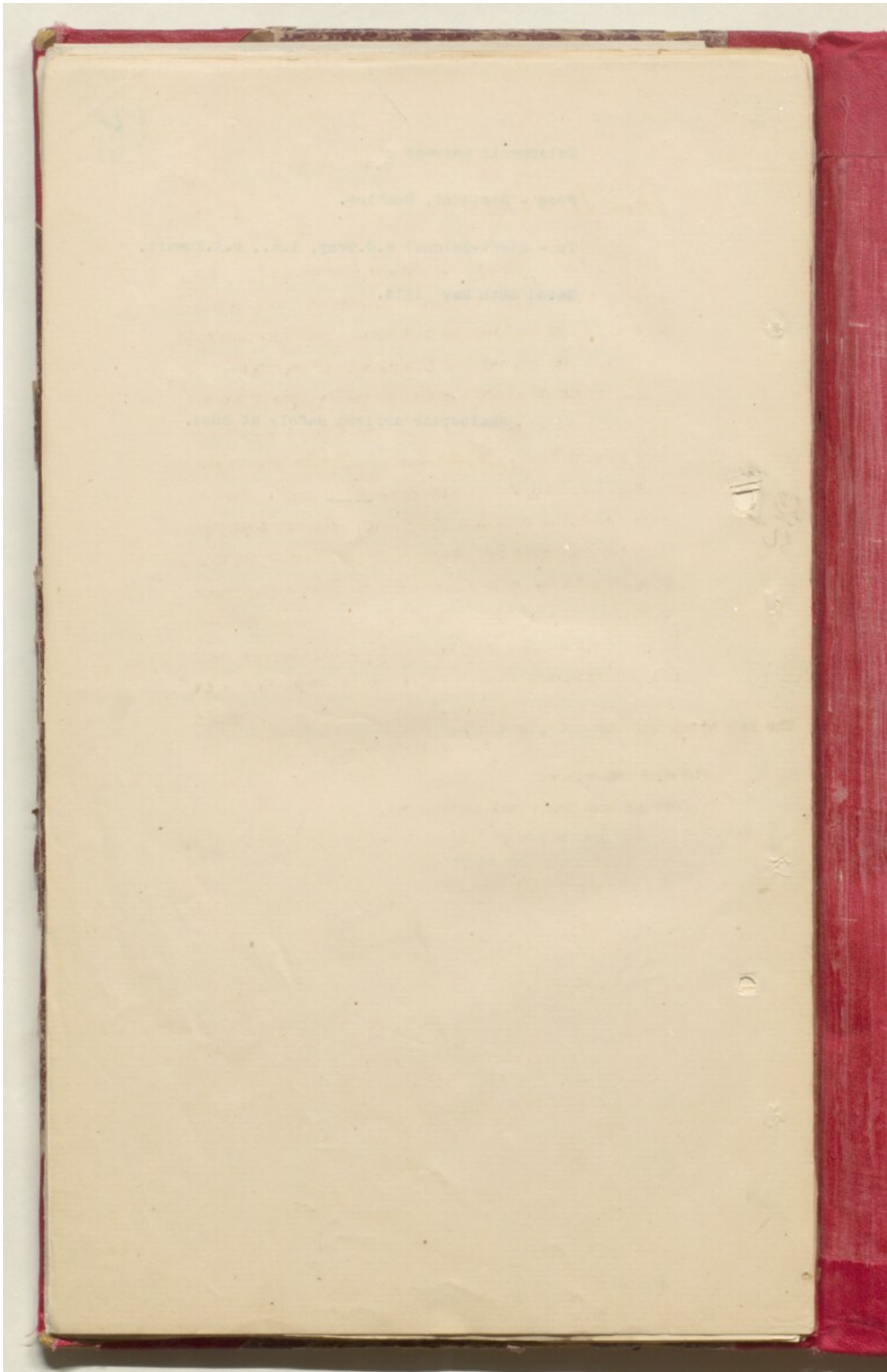
In reply to an enquiry in this connection Colonel Grey writes that Shaikh Mubarak told him that although rumours reached him from time to time regarding the condition of Basrah and its neighbourhood he had no information concerning the intrigues mentioned by Sir L. Mallet, and had no intention of encouraging or even countenancing such movements. He adds that the Shaikh is of opinion that the use of his name in this way may safely be put down to Saiyid Talib of Basrah.

53/32 III

A.H. Grant, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary,
Foreign and Political Department,
S i m l a .









31st May 1914.

Dear Sir Percy,

sep 56

I have referred to Kuwait the question of the mode of styling the Shaikh/in official correspondence especially in English, as a tendency has been noticed for him to be styled His Excellency or His Honour.

There does not appear to be any justification for these terms which ^{seem} to have crept in as a translation of the terms ⁽²⁾ *خبرك* and ⁽¹⁾ *خائب*. The first of these, if not the second, is used in vernacular correspondence when one pearl-merchant or shopkeeper addresses another and there is no necessity to translate them, in my opinion, by such high sounding words as "Your Excellency" or His Highness" which in English are, of course, used very sparingly and only for very special reasons. There is however no objection - it

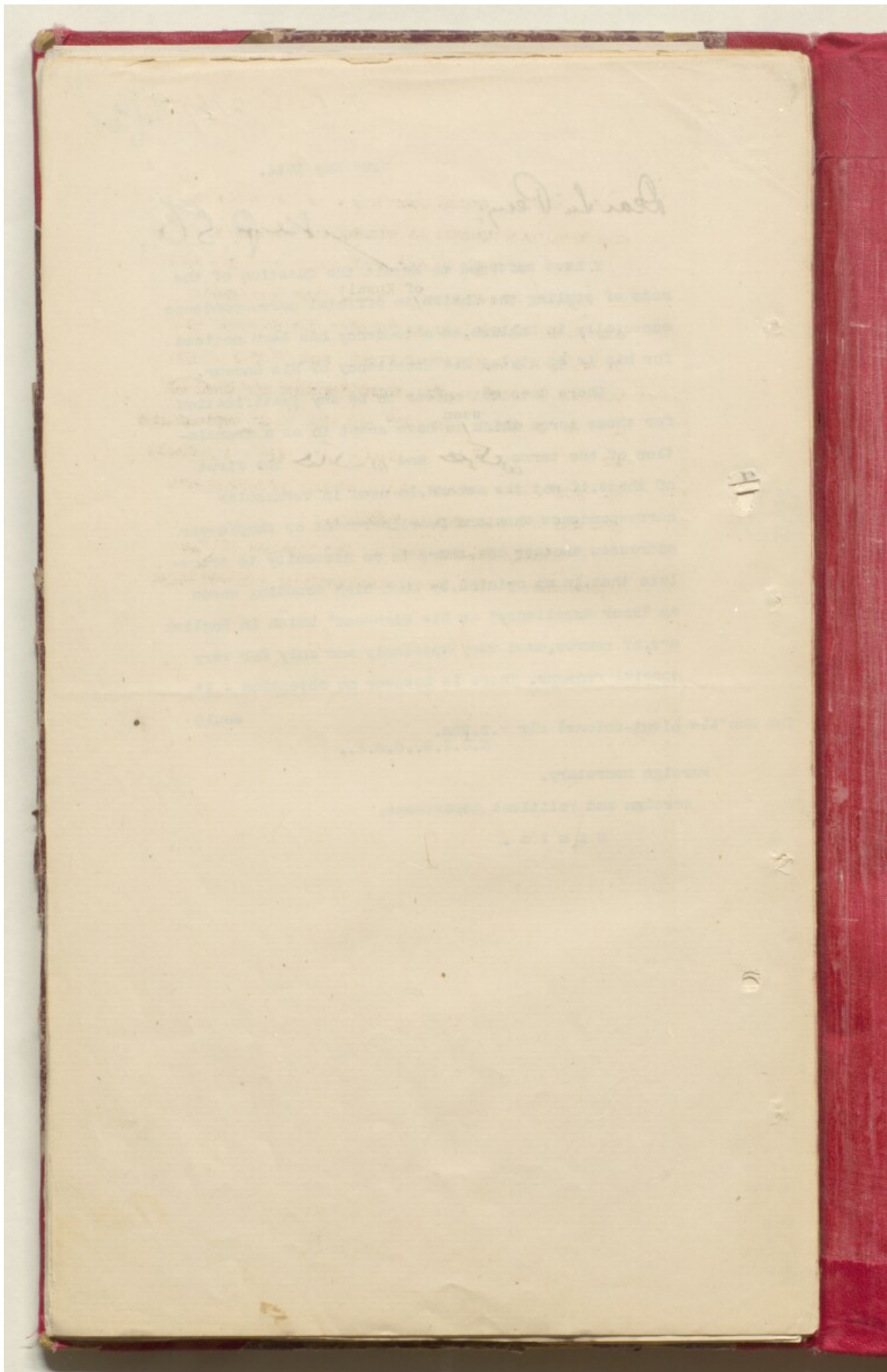
would

The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir P.Z.Cox,
K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,

Foreign Secretary,

Foreign and Political Department,

S i m l a .





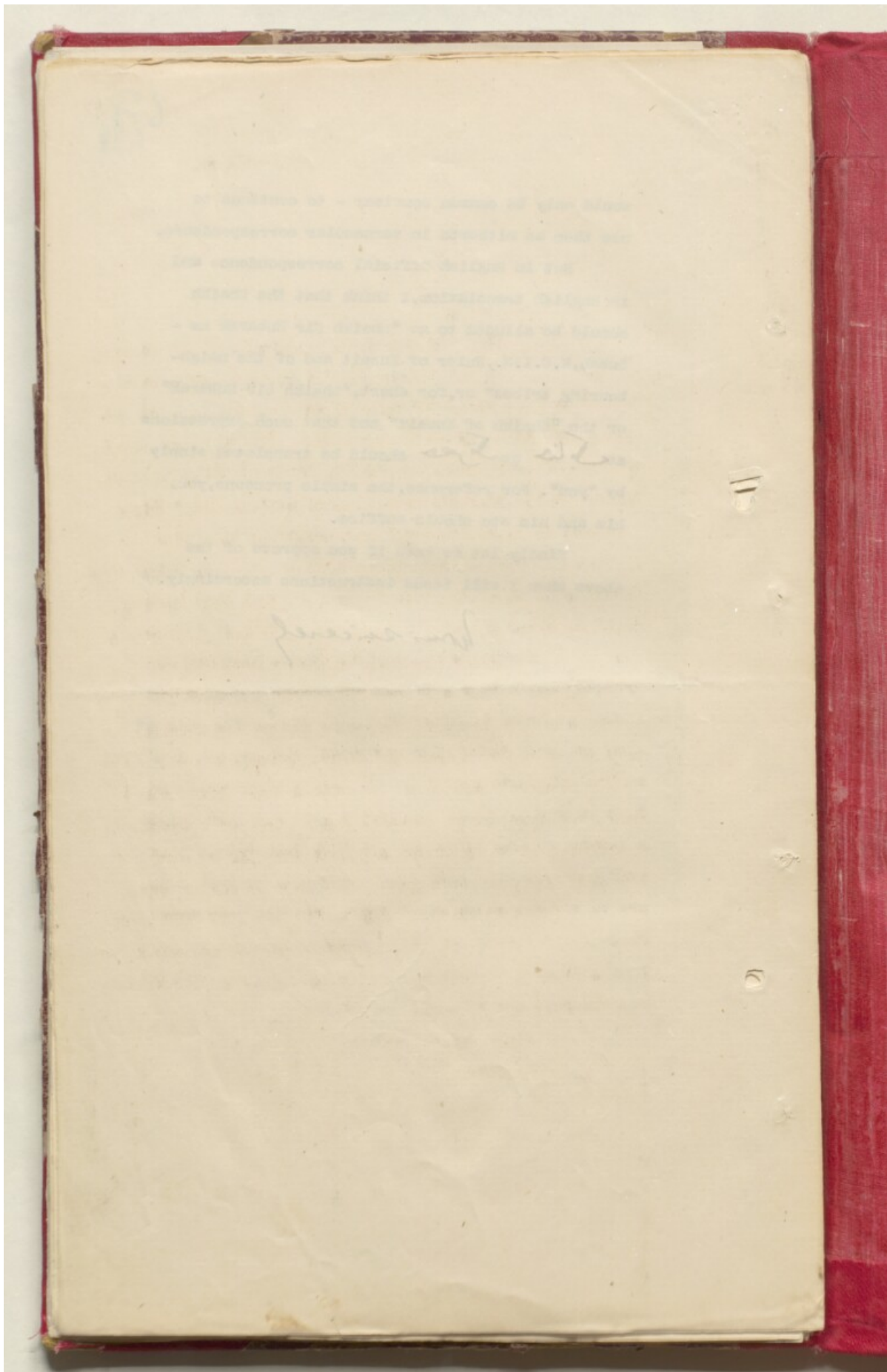
63 (6)

would only be common courtesy - to continue to use them as hitherto in vernacular correspondence.

But in English official correspondence and in English translation, I think that the Shaikh should be alluded to as "Shaikh Sir Mubarak as - Subah, K.C.I.E., Ruler of Kuwait and of the neighbouring tribes" or, for short, "Shaikh Sir Mubarak" or the "Shaikh of Kuwait" and that such expressions as *صاحب* or *مفرق* should be translated simply by "you". For reference, the simple pronouns, you, him and his etc should suffice.

Kindly let me know if you approve of the above when I will issue instructions accordingly.

Yours sincerely





14.VI.14.

64 (62)

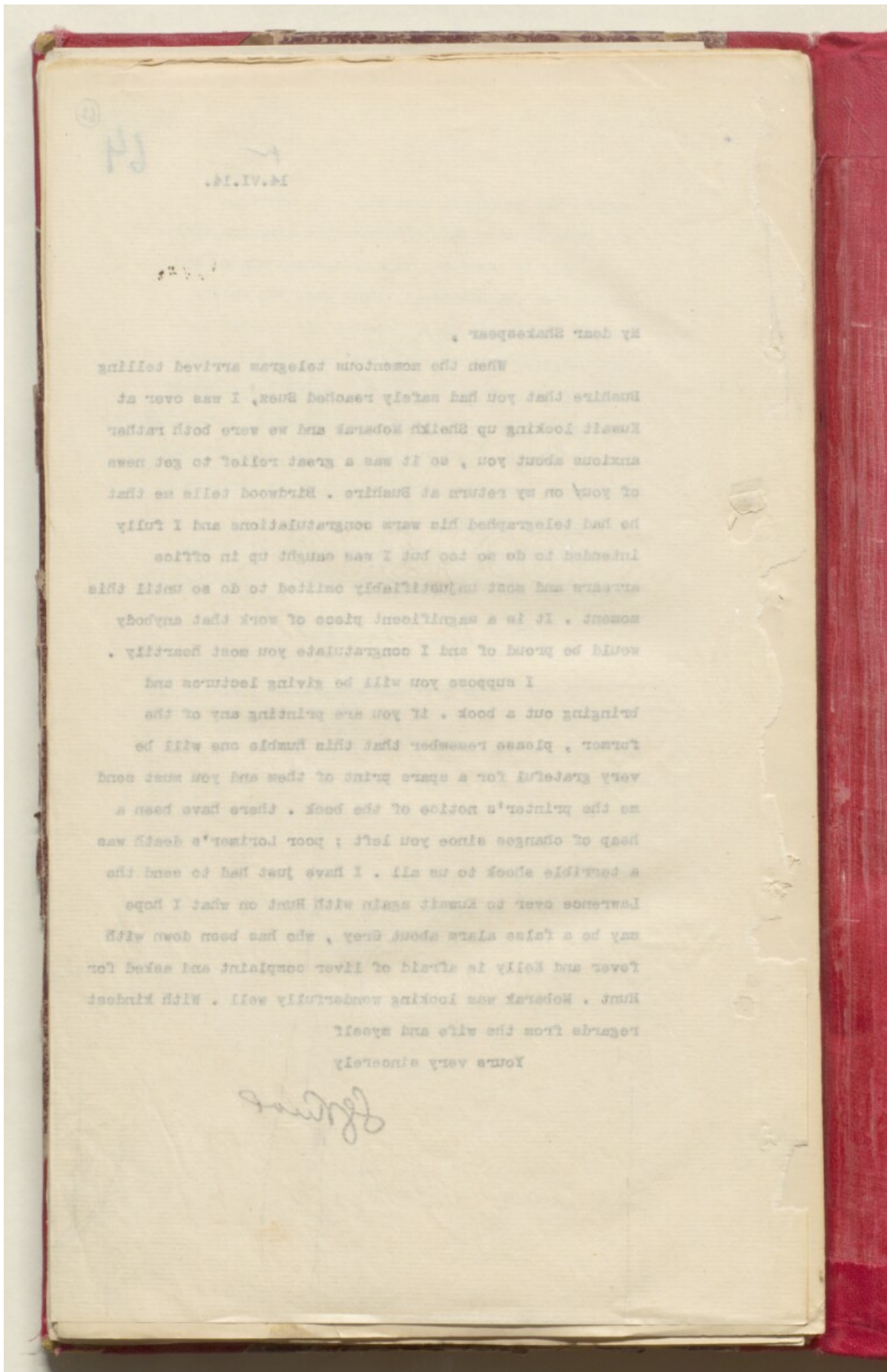
My dear Shakespear ,

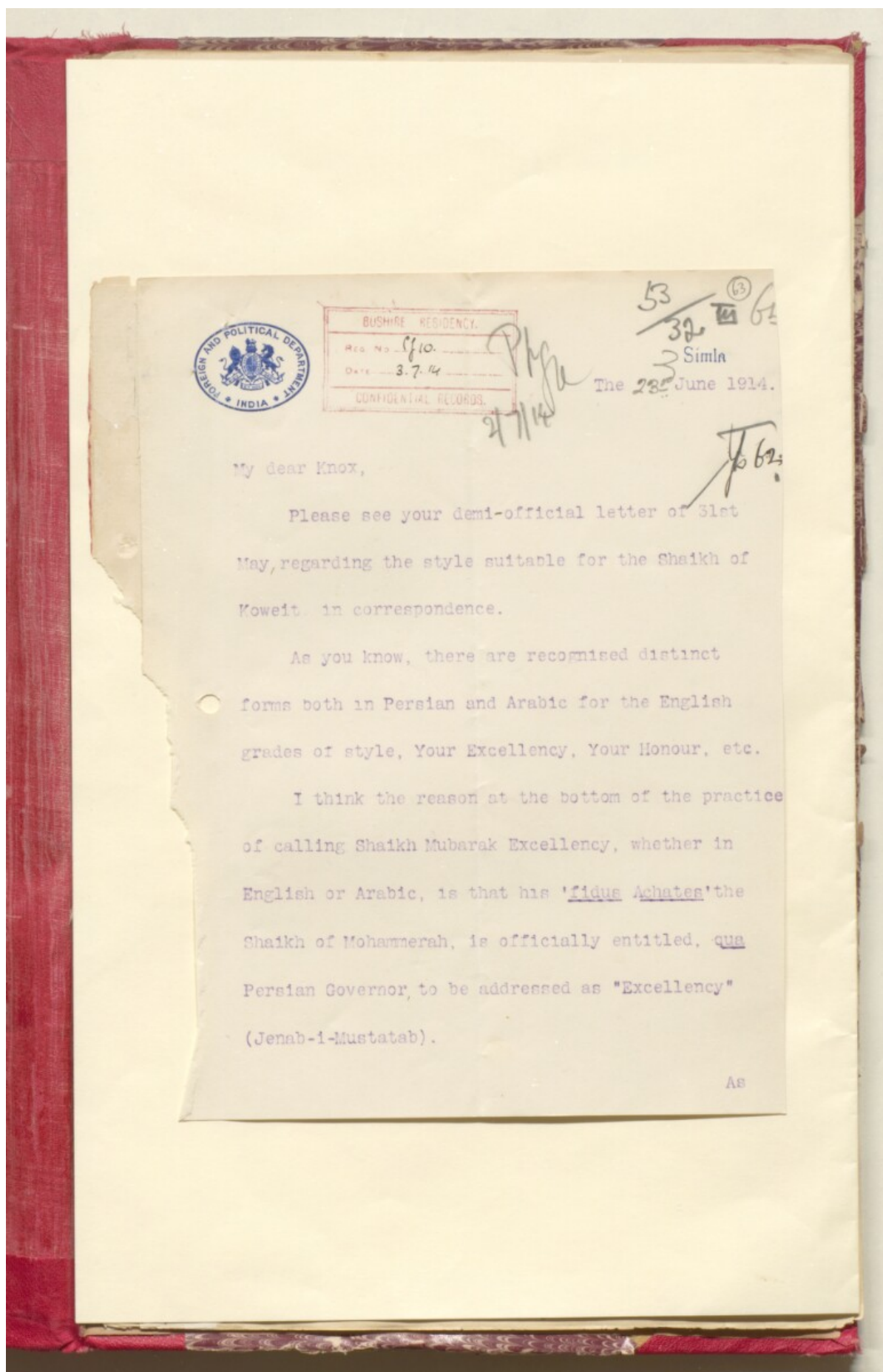
When the momentous telegram arrived telling Bushire that you had safely reached Suez, I was over at Kuwait looking up Sheikh Mobarak and we were both rather anxious about you , so it was a great relief to get news of you/ on my return at Bushire . Birdwood tells me that he had telegraphed his warm congratulations and I fully intended to do so too but I was caught up in office arrears and most unjustifiably omitted to do so until this moment . It is a magnificent piece of work that anybody would be proud of and I congratulate you most heartily .

I suppose you will be giving lectures and bringing out a book . if you are printing any of the former , please remember that this humble one will be very grateful for a spare print of them and you must send me the printer's notice of the book . there have been a heap of changes since you left ; poor Lorimer's death was a terrible shock to us all . I have just had to send the Lawrence over to Kuwait again with Hunt on what I hope may be a false alarm about Grey , who has been down with fever and Kelly is afraid of liver complaint and asked for Hunt . Mobarak was looking wonderfully well . With kindest regards from the wife and myself

Yours very sincerely

S. R. M.





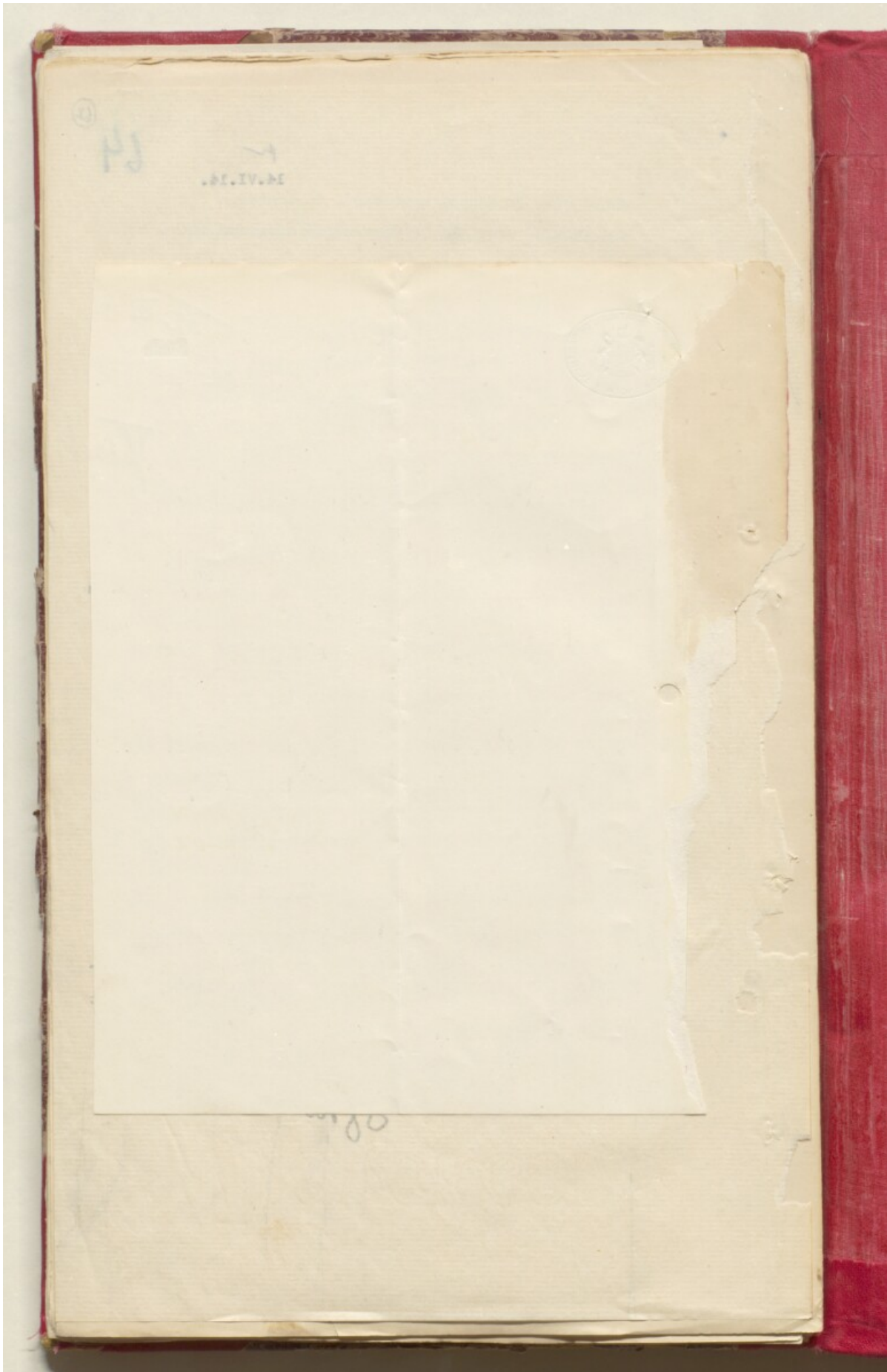
My dear Knox,

Please see your demi-official letter of 31st May, regarding the style suitable for the Shaikh of Kuwait. in correspondence.

As you know, there are recognised distinct forms both in Persian and Arabic for the English grades of style, Your Excellency, Your Honour, etc.

I think the reason at the bottom of the practice of calling Shaikh Mubarak Excellency, whether in English or Arabic, is that his 'fidus Achates' the Shaikh of Mohammerah, is officially entitled, qua Persian Governor, to be addressed as "Excellency" (Jenab-i-Mustatab).

As





(64) 60
As they show each other our letters very often,
it would hardly be advisable for us to differentiate,
especially as the Shaikh of Koweit, as being locally
autonomous is the bigger man of the two.

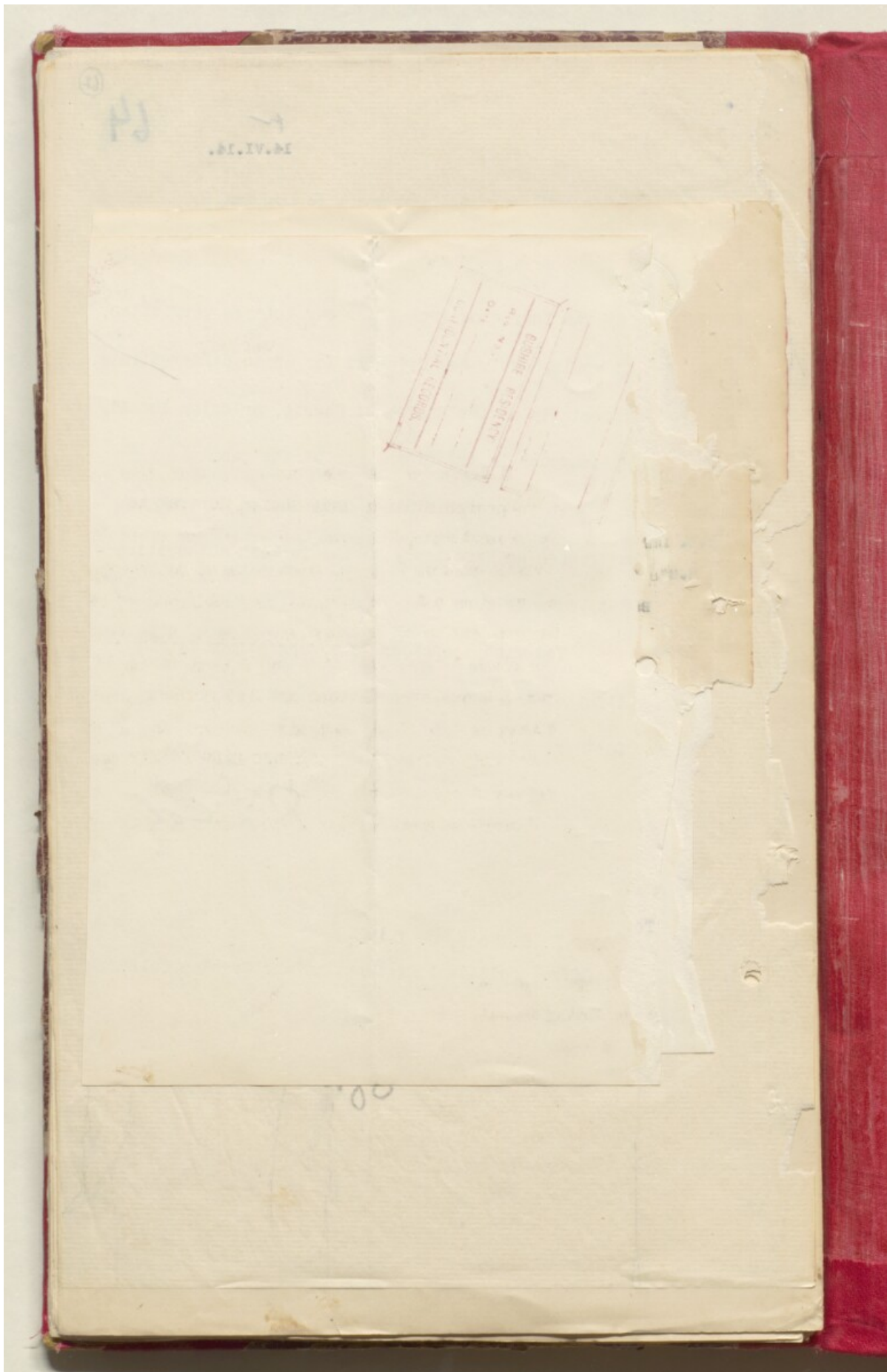
It is probable also, that Shaikh Mubarak is
addressed as Excellency by the Turkish authorities -
Can you make sure ?

You might consider your suggestions by the
light of the above observations and let me hear
further.

Yours sincerely,

P. Z. Cox

To
Major S. G. Knox, C. I. E.,
Offg. Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





53/32/67
62.
7th July 1914.

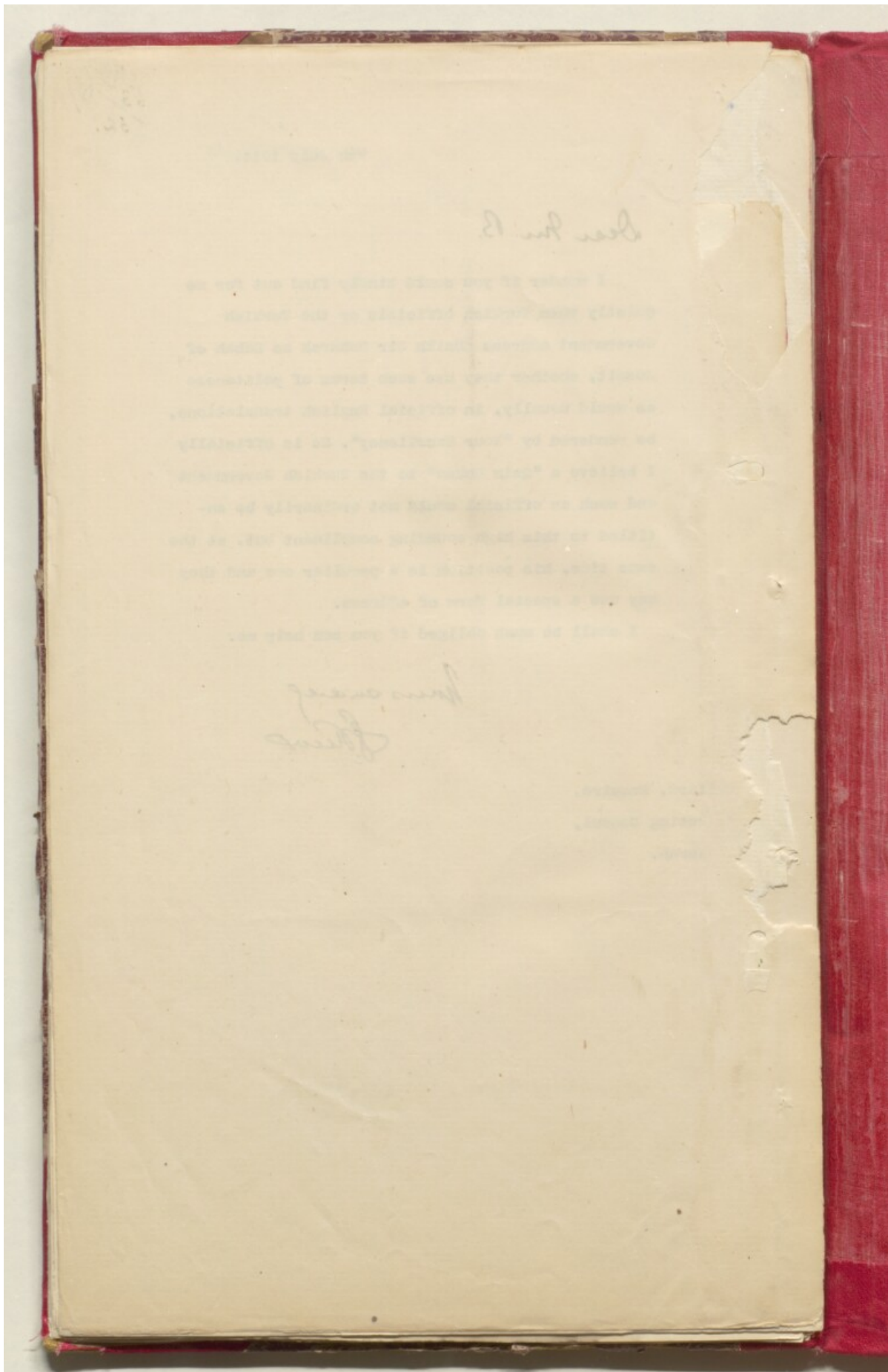
Dear Mr B.

I wonder if you could kindly find out for me quietly when Turkish officials or the Turkish Government address Shaikh Sir Mubarak as Sabah of Kuwait, whether they use such terms of politeness as would usually, in official English translations, be rendered by "Your Excellency". He is officially I believe a "Qaim Makan" to the Turkish Government and such an official would not ordinarily be entitled to this high sounding compliment but, at the same time, his position is a peculiar one and they may use a special form of address.

I shall be much obliged if you can help me.

Yours sincerely
J. M. C.

Billard, Esquire,
Acting Consul,
Basrah.



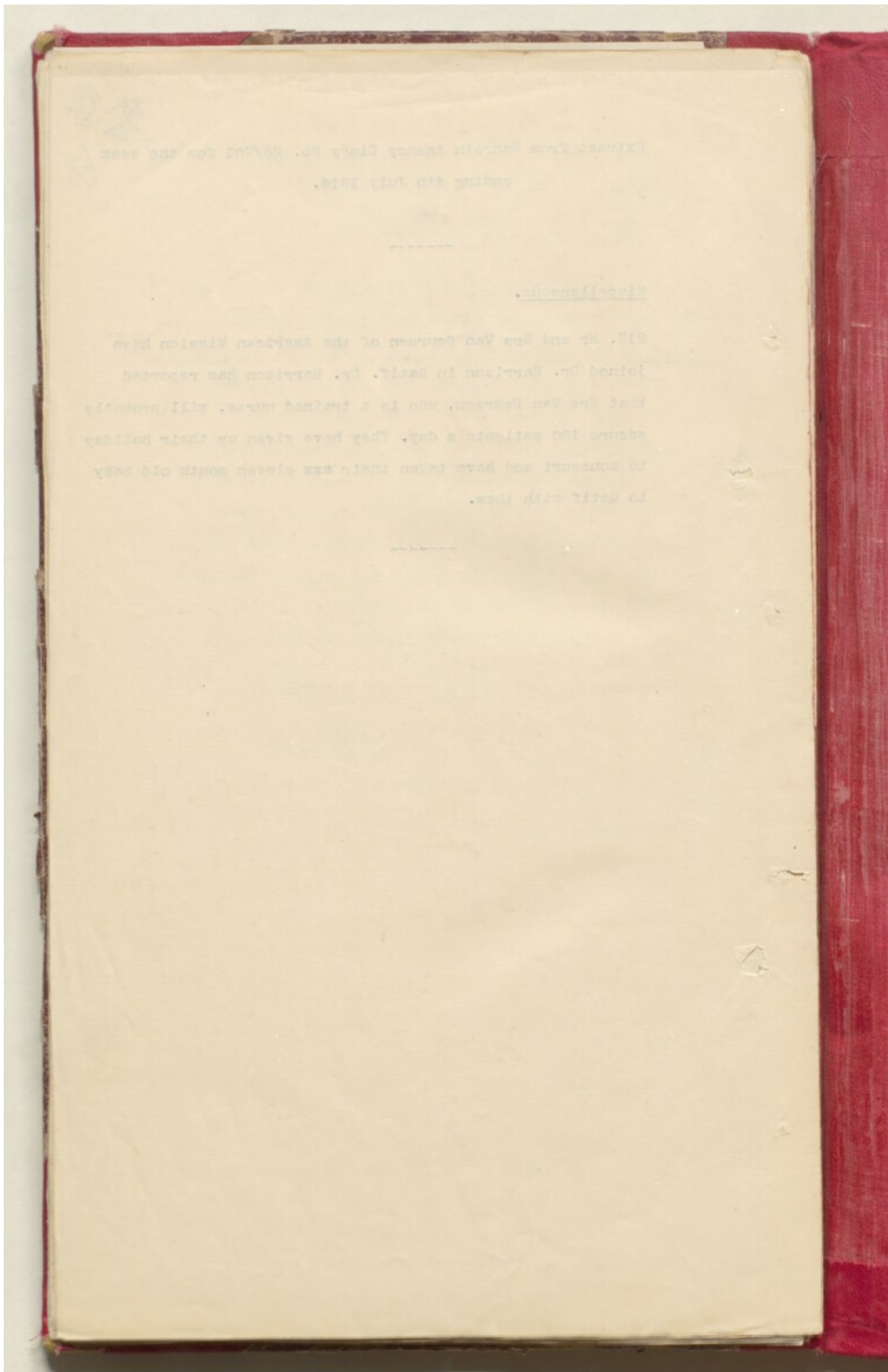


Extract from Bahrain Agency Diary No. 26/701 for the week
ending 4th July 1914.

53/32 III
68

Miscellaneous.

217. Mr and Mrs Van Peursen of the American Mission have joined Dr. Harrison in Qatif. Dr. Harrison has reported that Mrs Van Peursen, who is a trained nurse, will probably secure 100 patients a day. They have given up their holiday to Moussuri and have taken their ~~xxx~~ eleven month old baby to Qatif with them.





53
32

H.B.M. Consulate,

Basra. July 31, 1914.

69⑦

Dear Major Knox,

Your D/O of July 7, which I am sorry to have been unable to answer before.

I learn that ~~the~~ the Turkish officials here, in writing to Shaikh Sir Mubarak, write in Arabic and use the term

حادة My Arabic is not so strong as my Turkish, but I believe حادة to be the Arabic equivalent of the Turkish ~~مفترى~~ and to mean "Excellency". On this point, however, you are more competent to judge than I am.

How the Central Turkish address the Shaikh I do not know. You could perhaps find out from the First Dragoman at the Embassy, Constantinople.

Yours sincerely

R. W. Bullard

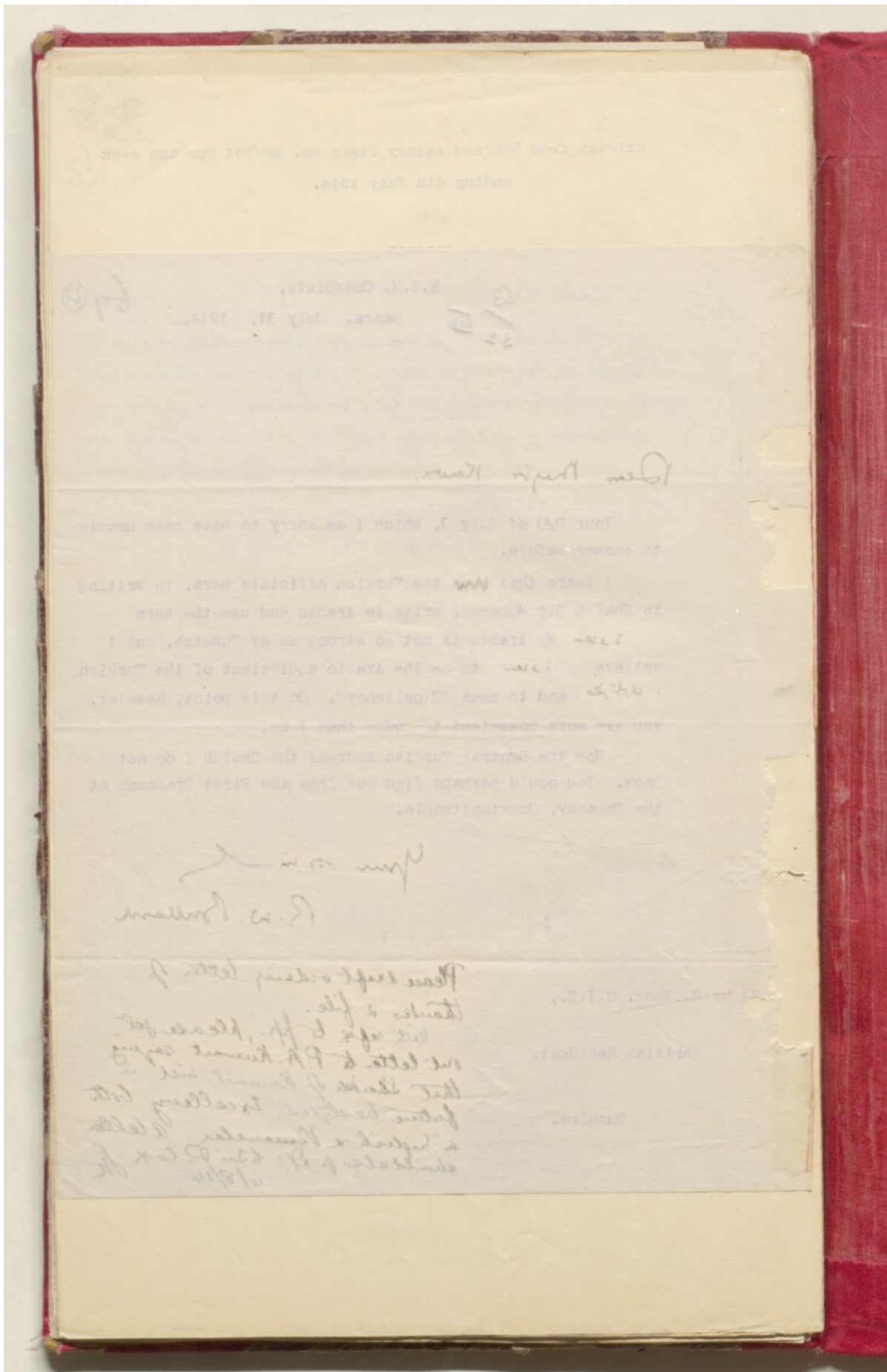
Major S. Knox, C.I.E.,

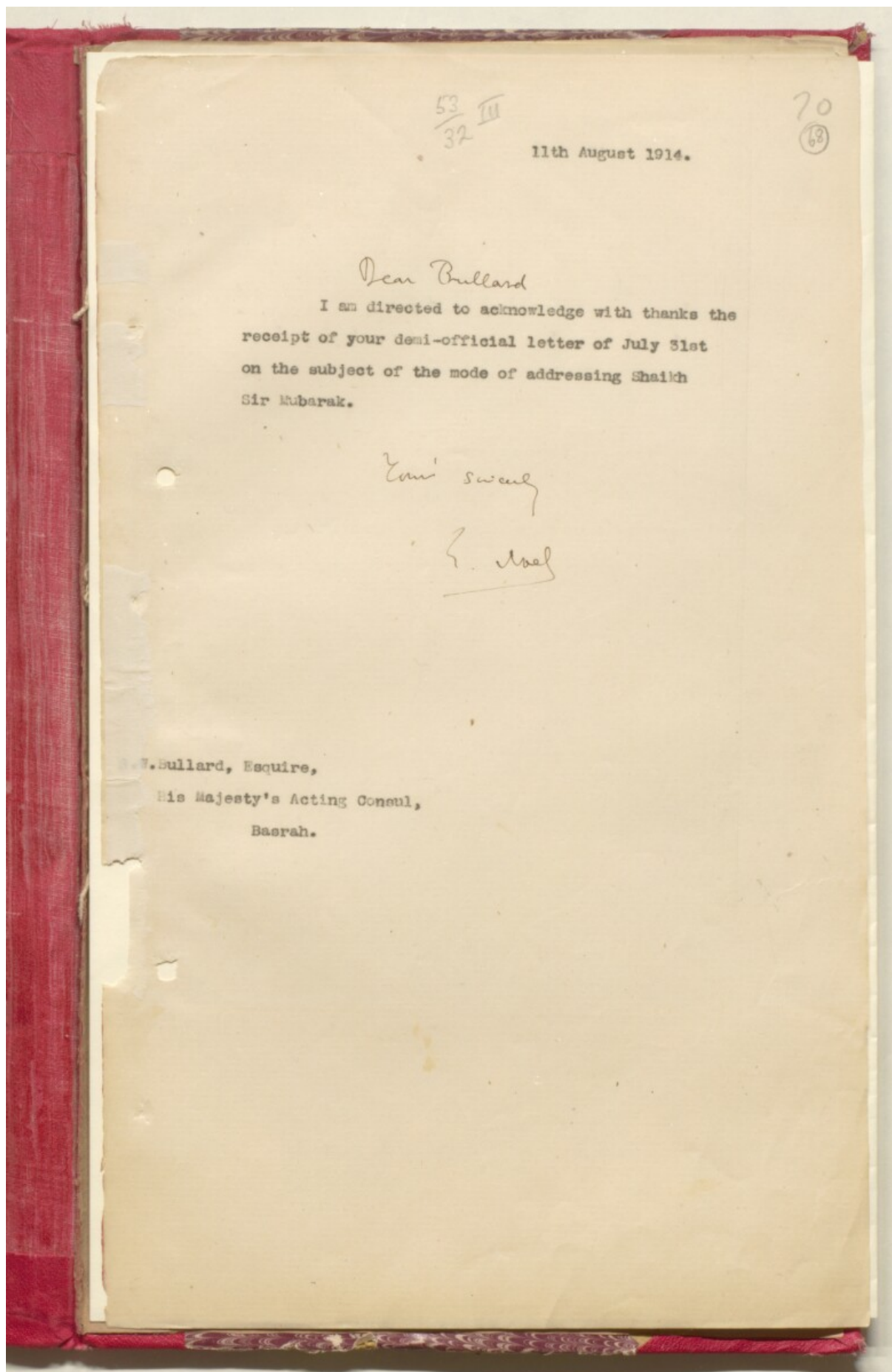
British Resident,

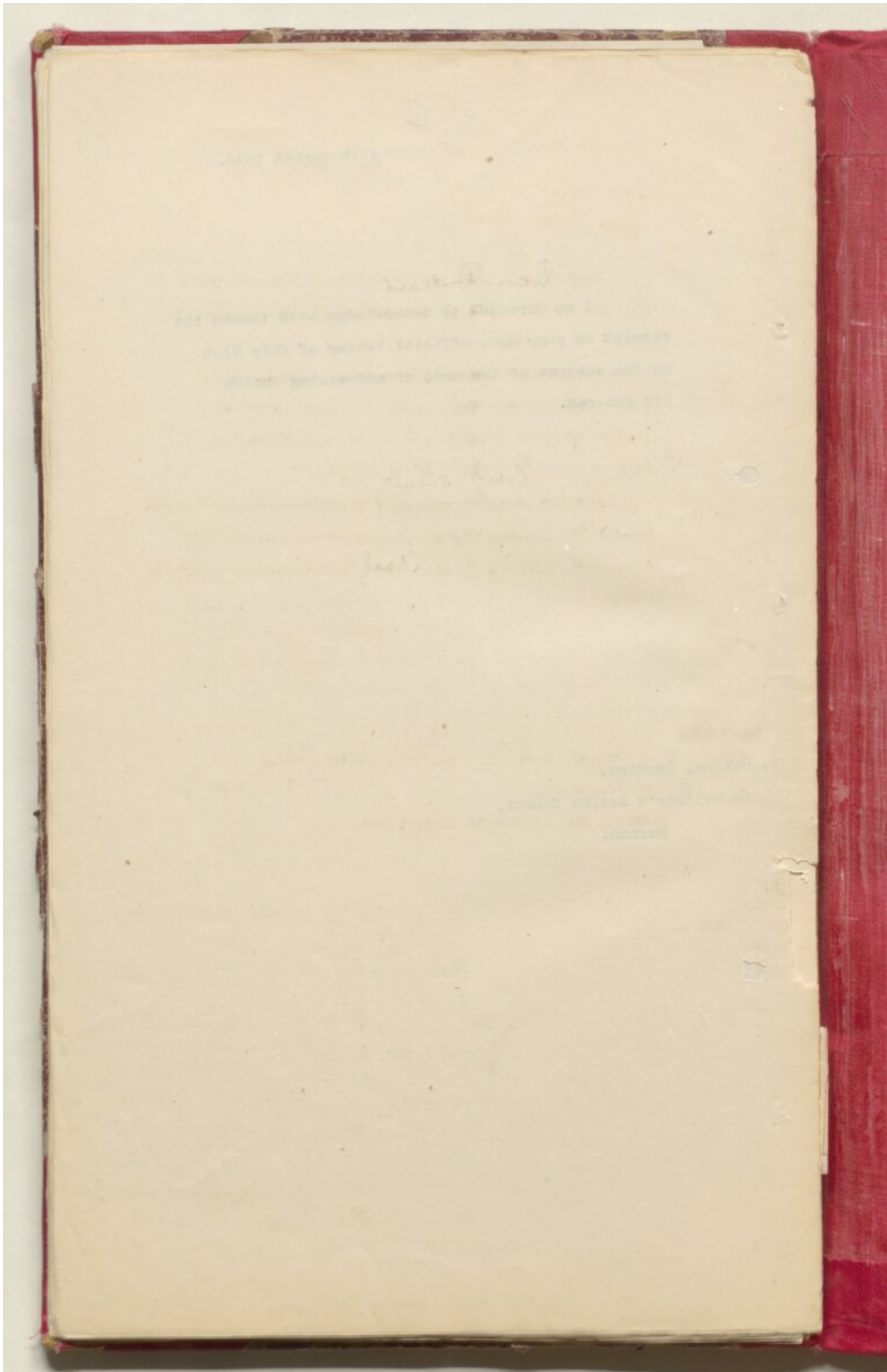
Bushire.

Please draft ordinary letter of thanks & file.

With refs. to pp., please set out letter to P.A. Kuwait saying that Shaikh of Kuwait will in future be styled Excellency both in English & Persian. A letter should also go D/O to Sir P. Cox. JH
4/8/14









53
32 IV 71⁽⁹⁾
11th August 1914.

Dear Sir P.

Please see your demi-official letter of June 23rd on the subject of the method of addressing the Shaikh of Kuwait.

As a result of enquiries made at Basrah, I now learn that in official correspondence the Turks always address Mubarak as *سلا* which we may take as the equivalent of "Excellency".

I have therefore issued instructions that in future Shaikh Sir Mubarak should always be styled as "Excellency", both in English and vernacular correspondence.

Yours sincerely
H

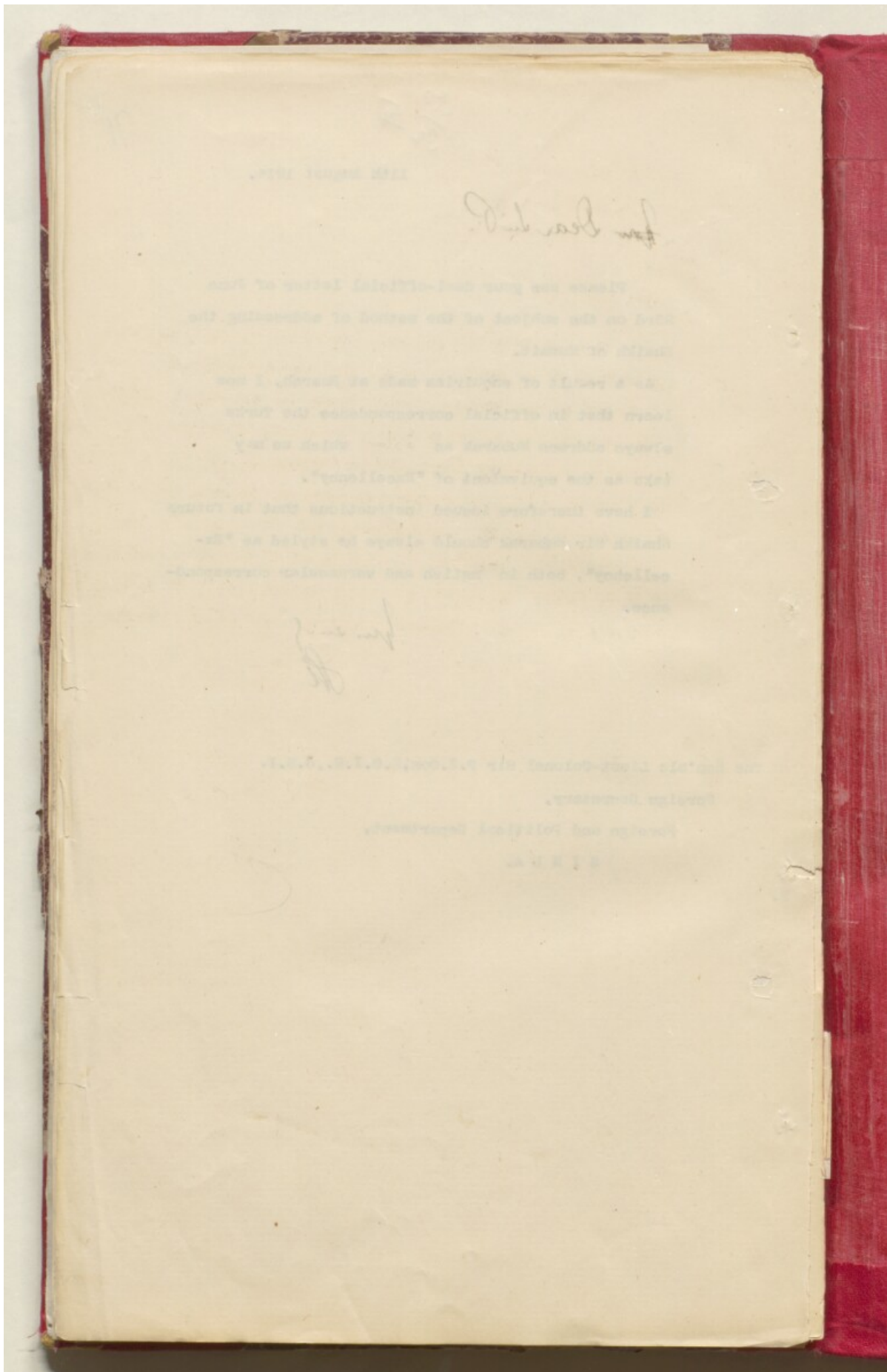
The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir P.Z.Cox, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

Foreign Secretary,

Foreign and Political Department,

S I M L A.

F.





53 III 72
32
Docket Telegram.

From Knox, P.R. Bushire.

To Grey, P.A. Kuwait.

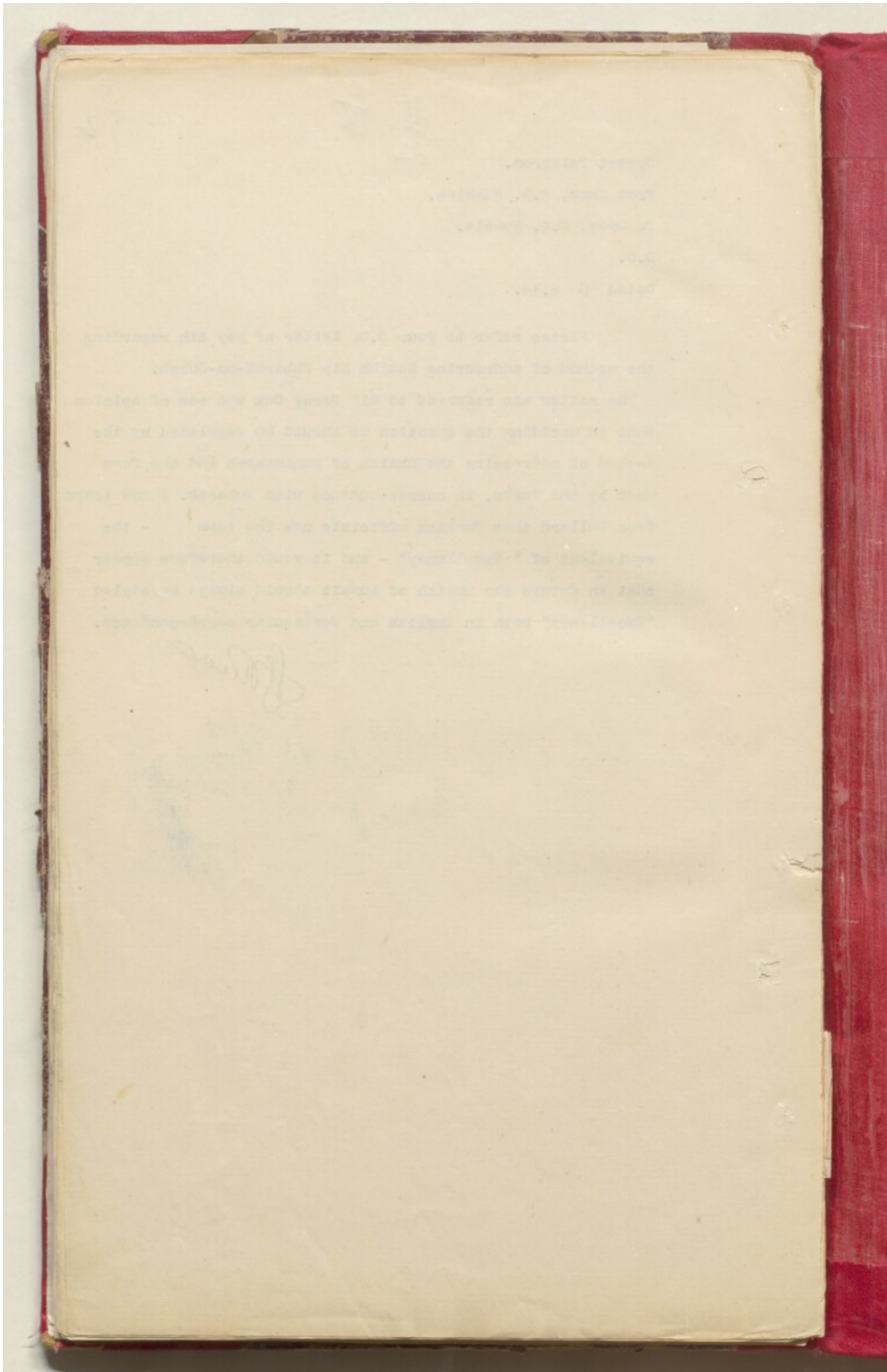
D.O.

Dated 13. 8.14.

Please refer to your D.O. letter of May 8th regarding the method of addressing Shaikh Sir Mubarak-us-Subah.

The matter was referred to Sir Percy Cox who was of opinion that in deciding the question we should be regulated by the method of addressing the Shaikh of Muhammareh and the form used by the Turks, in correspondence with Mubarak. I now learn from Bullard that Turkish officials use the term - the equivalent of "Excellency" - and it would therefore appear that in future the Shaikh of Kuwait should always be styled "Excellency" both in English and Vernacular correspondence.

J. Bullard





Confidential.

Docket Telegram.

From Grey, P.A., Kuwait.

To Knox, P.R., Bushire.

Demi-official.

Dated 29th October 1914.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Res. No.	9455
DATE	3.11.14
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

(11)
73

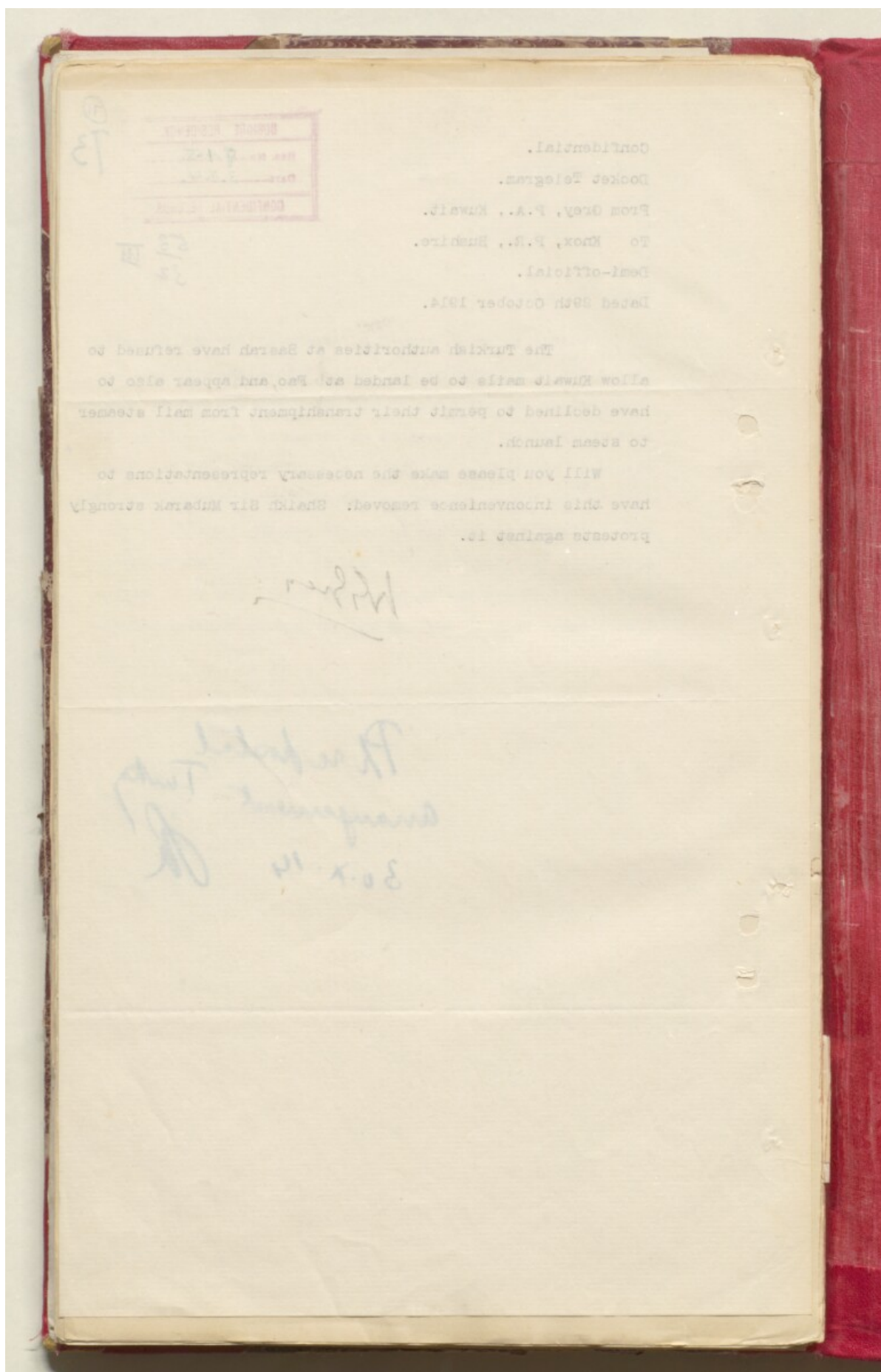
53
32 14

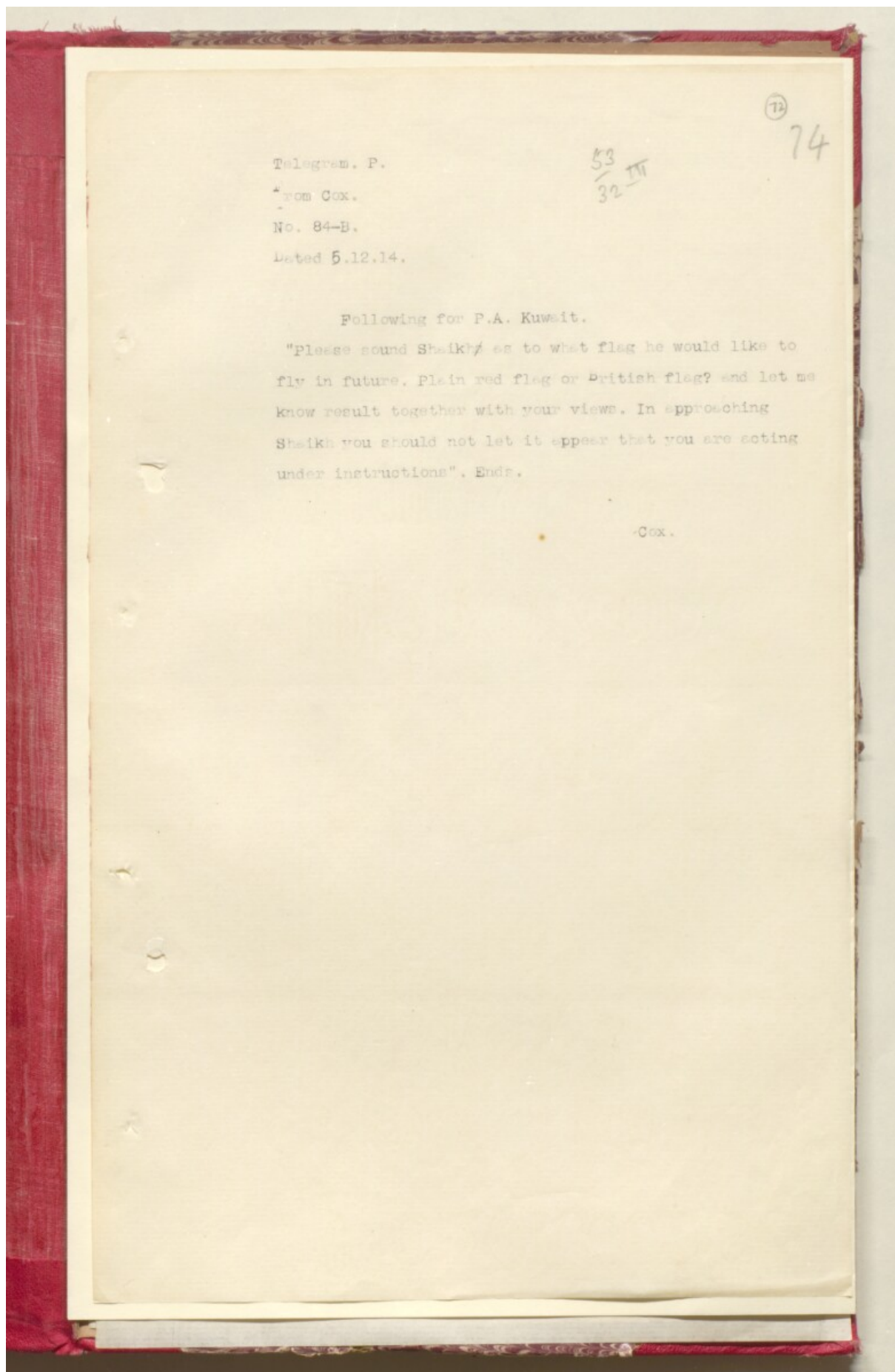
The Turkish authorities at Basrah have refused to allow Kuwait mails to be landed at Fao, and appear also to have declined to permit their transshipment from mail steamer to steam launch.

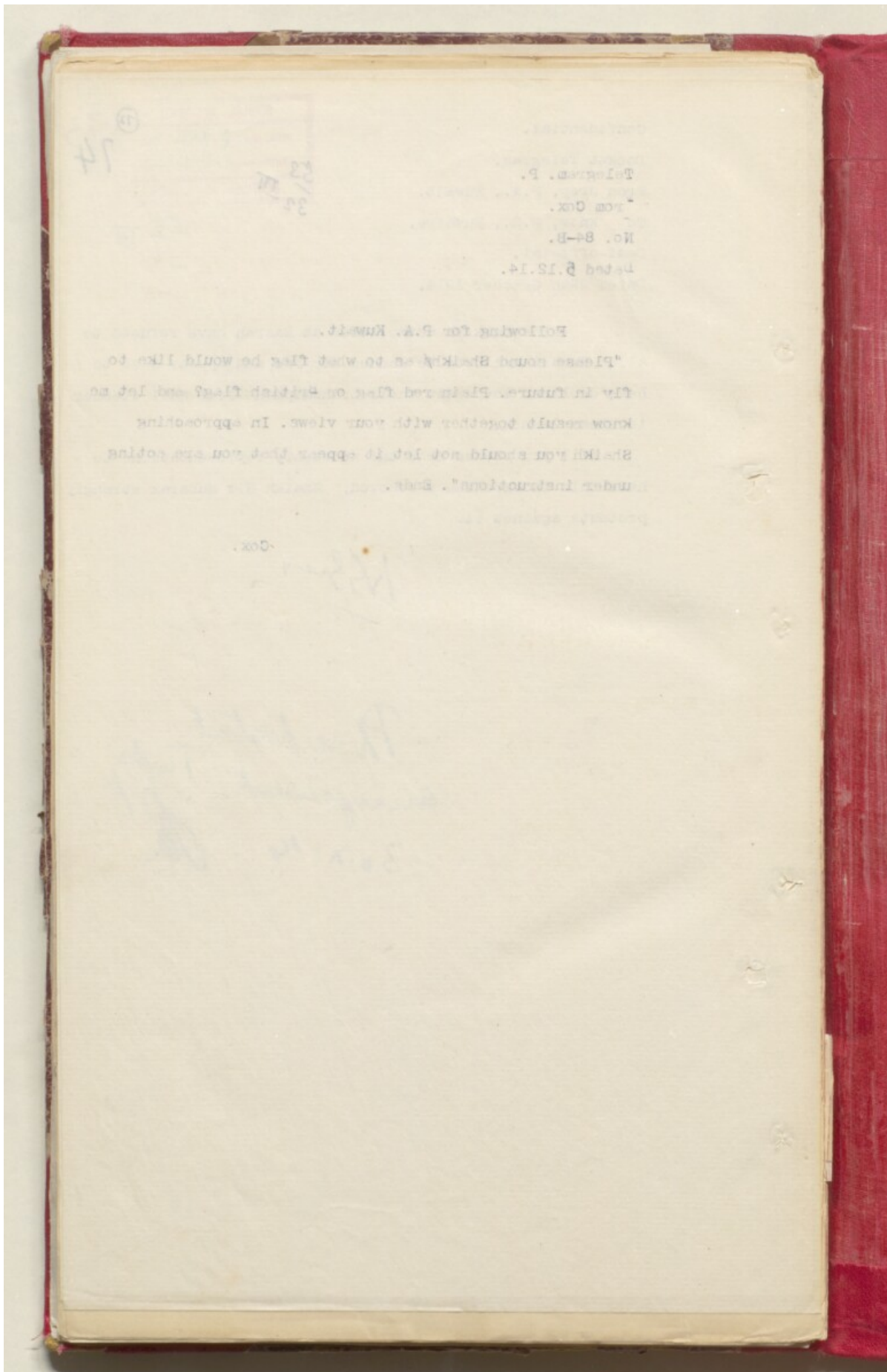
Will you please make the necessary representations to have this inconvenience removed: Shaikh Sir Mubarak strongly protests against it.

W. Grey

*Ph re postal
arrangement Turkey
30.10.14*









Confidential *ofc.*

*53
32*

Bushire, Persian Gulf .

(13)

75

6-12-14 .

My dear Grey ,

Sir Percy Cox has asked me to send you the following message , which I have paraphrased . Please ascertain from Shaikh Mobarak whether he would prefer to fly henceforward the British flag or plain red flag . Do this without appearing to act under instructions . Please also let me have your views and let me know what is the result of your approaching Shaikh of Kuwait . Message ends . It is numbered 846 of 5th December .

Yours sincerely ,

SK

P.R.

For information .

6-12-14-

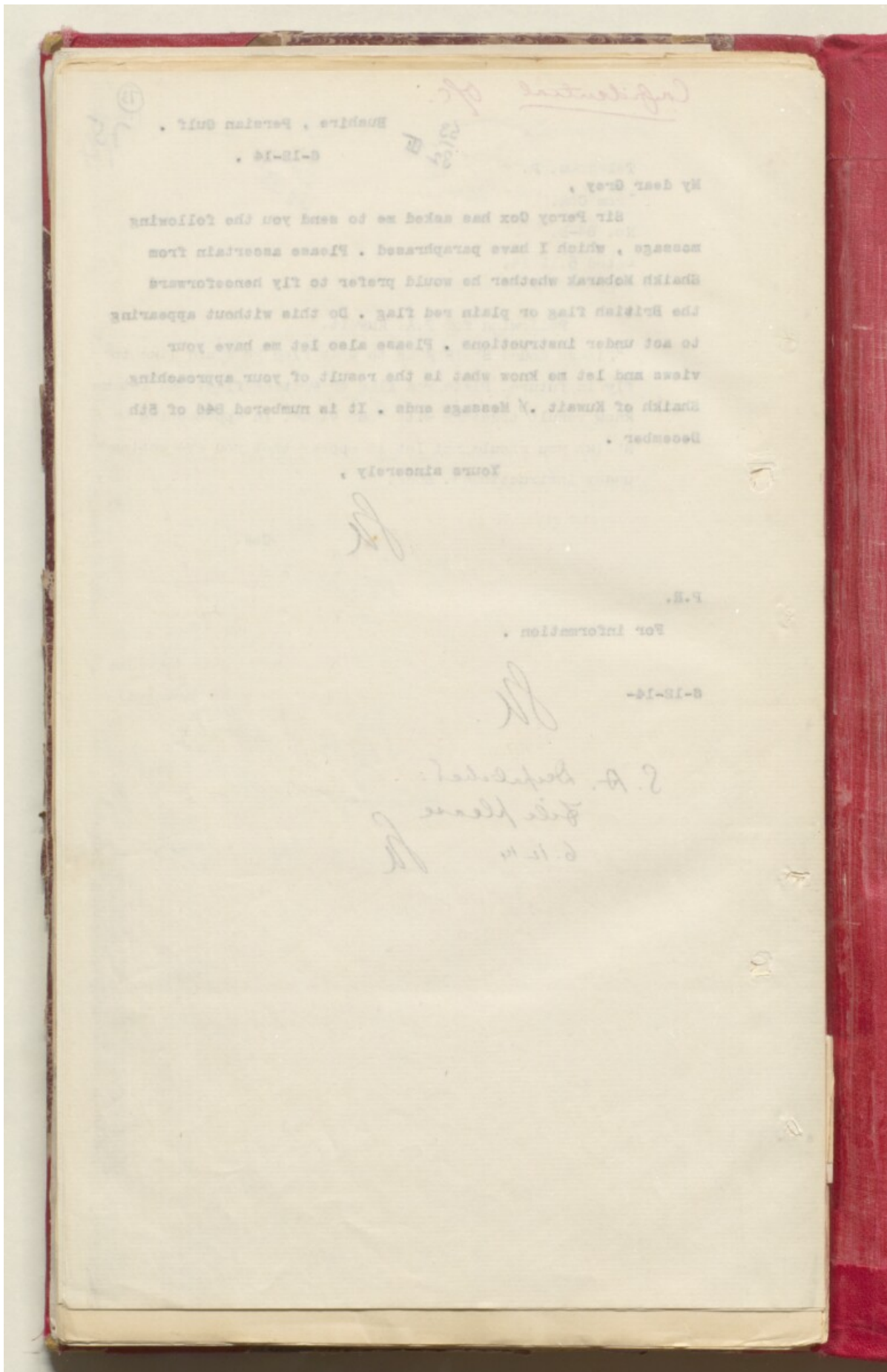
SK

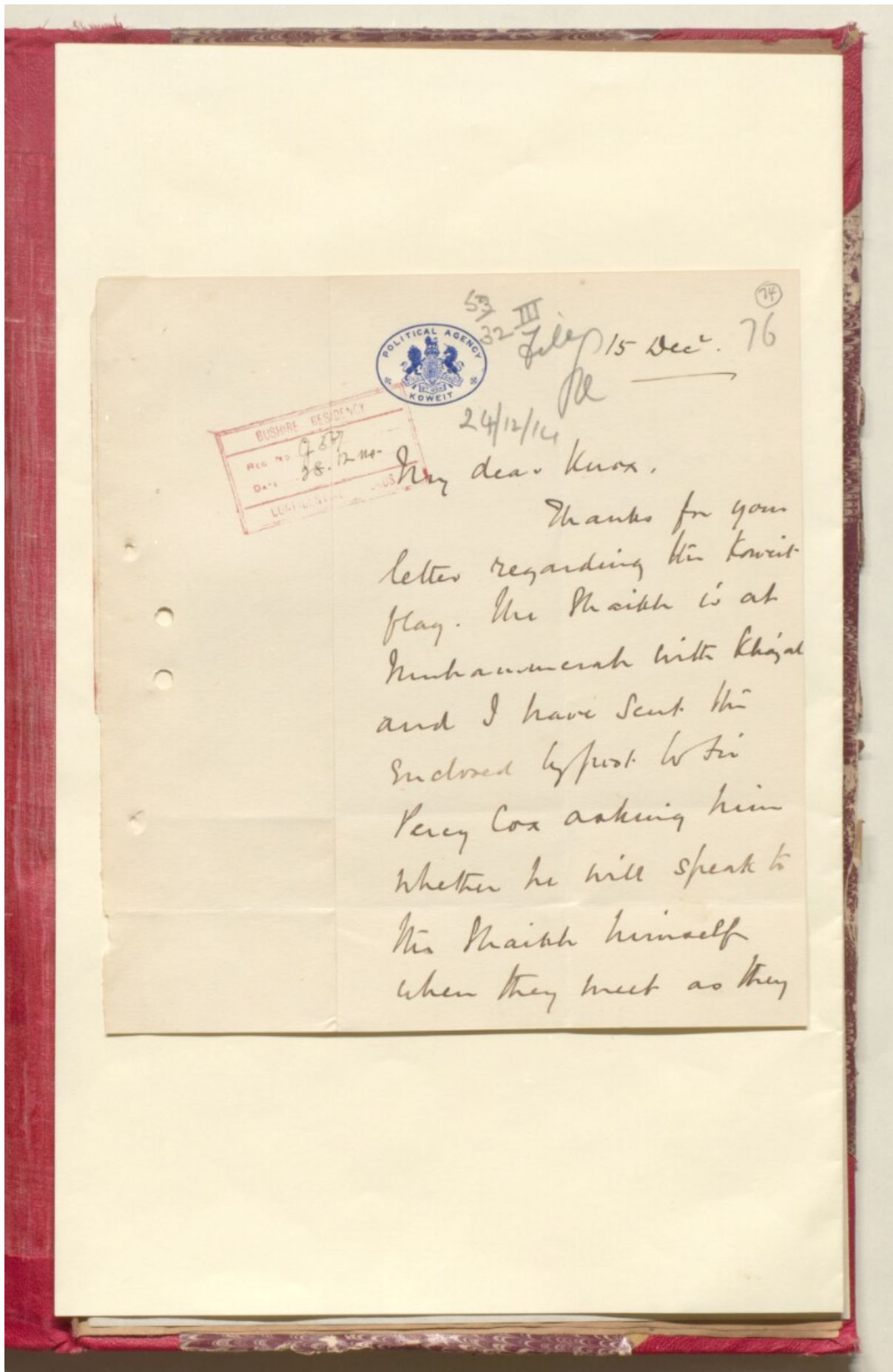
S. A. Despatched:

File please

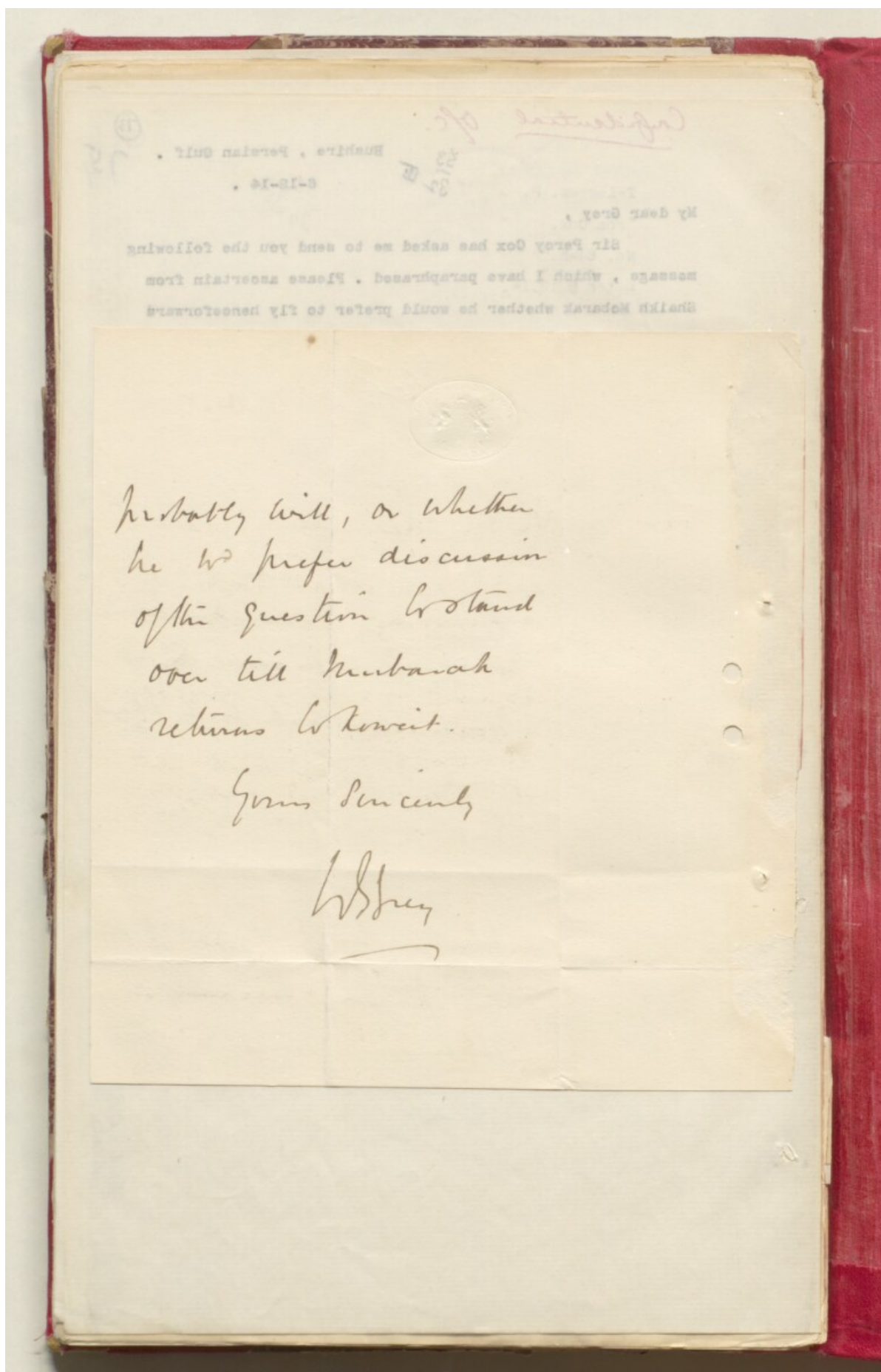
6.12.14

SK





53/32-III
15 Dec. 76
Mr
24/12/76
Mr dear Knox.
Thanks for your
letter regarding the Kuwait
flag. The Shaikh is at
Muhannakah with Khalid
and I have sent the
enclosed by post to Sir
Percy Cox asking him
whether he will speak to
the Shaikh himself
when they meet as they





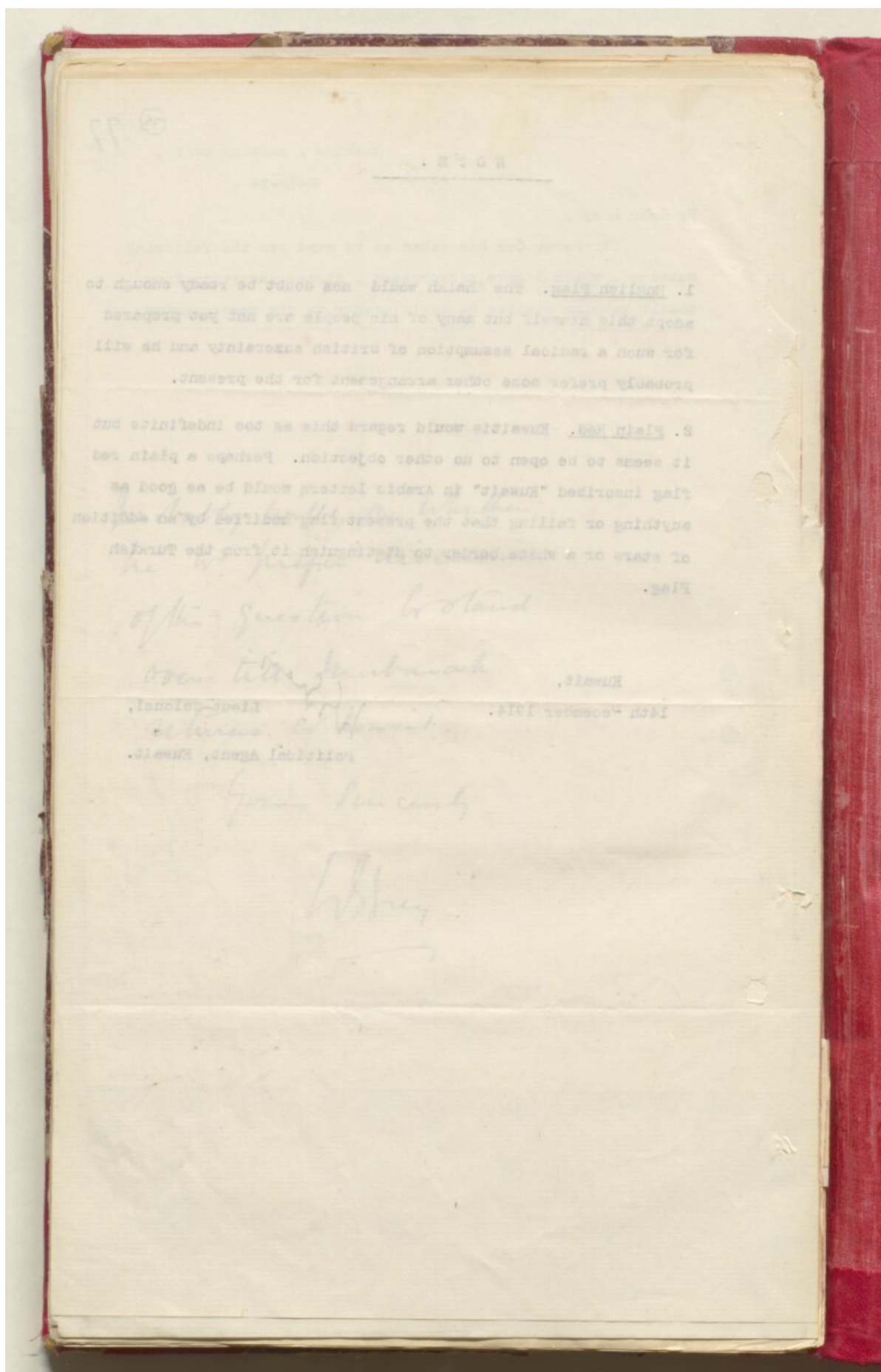
NOTE.

1. English Flag. The Shaikh would not doubt be ready enough to adopt this himself but many of his people are not yet prepared for such a radical assumption of British suzerainty and he will probably prefer some other arrangement for the present.

2. Plain Red. Kuwaitis would regard this as too indefinite but it seems to be open to no other objection. Perhaps a plain red flag inscribed "Kuwait" in Arabic letters would be as good as anything or failing that the present flag modified by an addition of stars or a white border to distinguish it from the Turkish Flag.

Kuwait,
14th December 1914.

W. S. S.
Lieut-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





152

CONFIDENTIAL

No. *C57* of 1914.

Political Agency, No. *9-579*
Kuwait. *30.12.14.*

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
CONFIDENTIAL

76 78
30.12.14

From
Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 18th December 1914.

Sir,

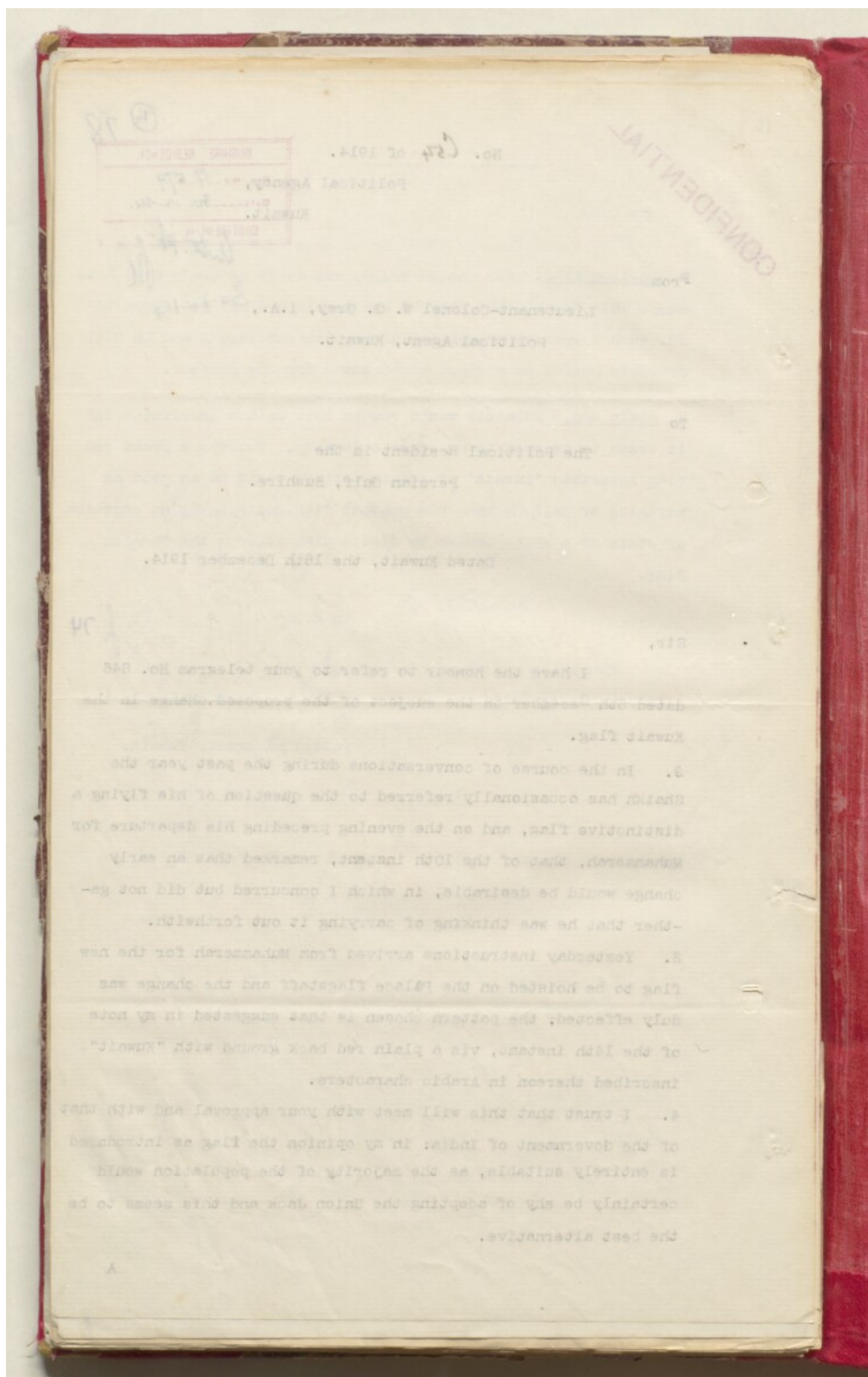
I have the honour to refer to your telegram No. 846 dated 5th December on the subject of the proposed change in the Kuwait flag.

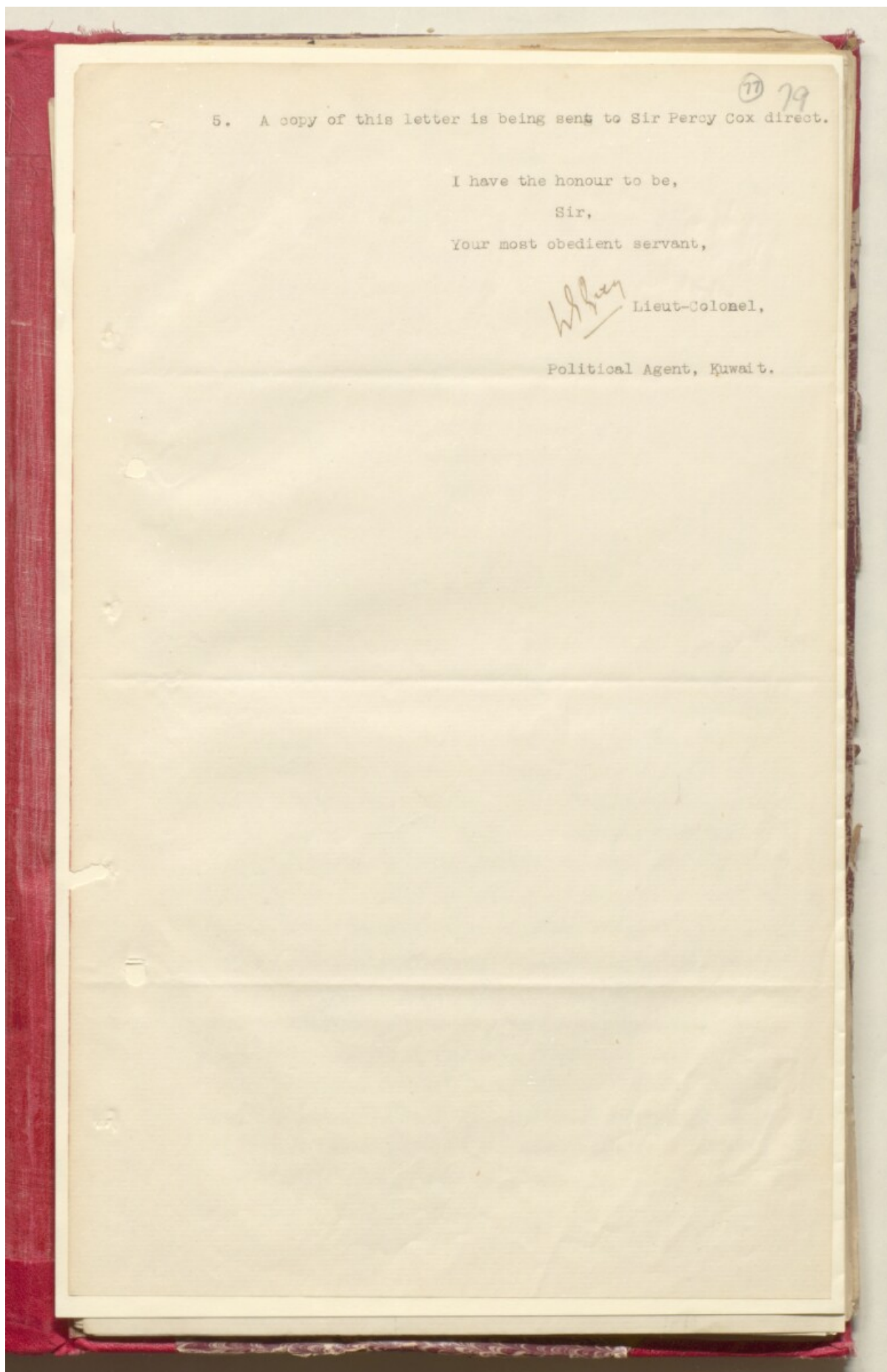
2. In the course of conversations during the past year the Shaikh has occasionally referred to the question of his flying a distinctive flag, and on the evening preceding his departure for Muhammerah, that of the 10th instant, remarked that an early change would be desirable, in which I concurred but did not gather that he was thinking of carrying it out forthwith.

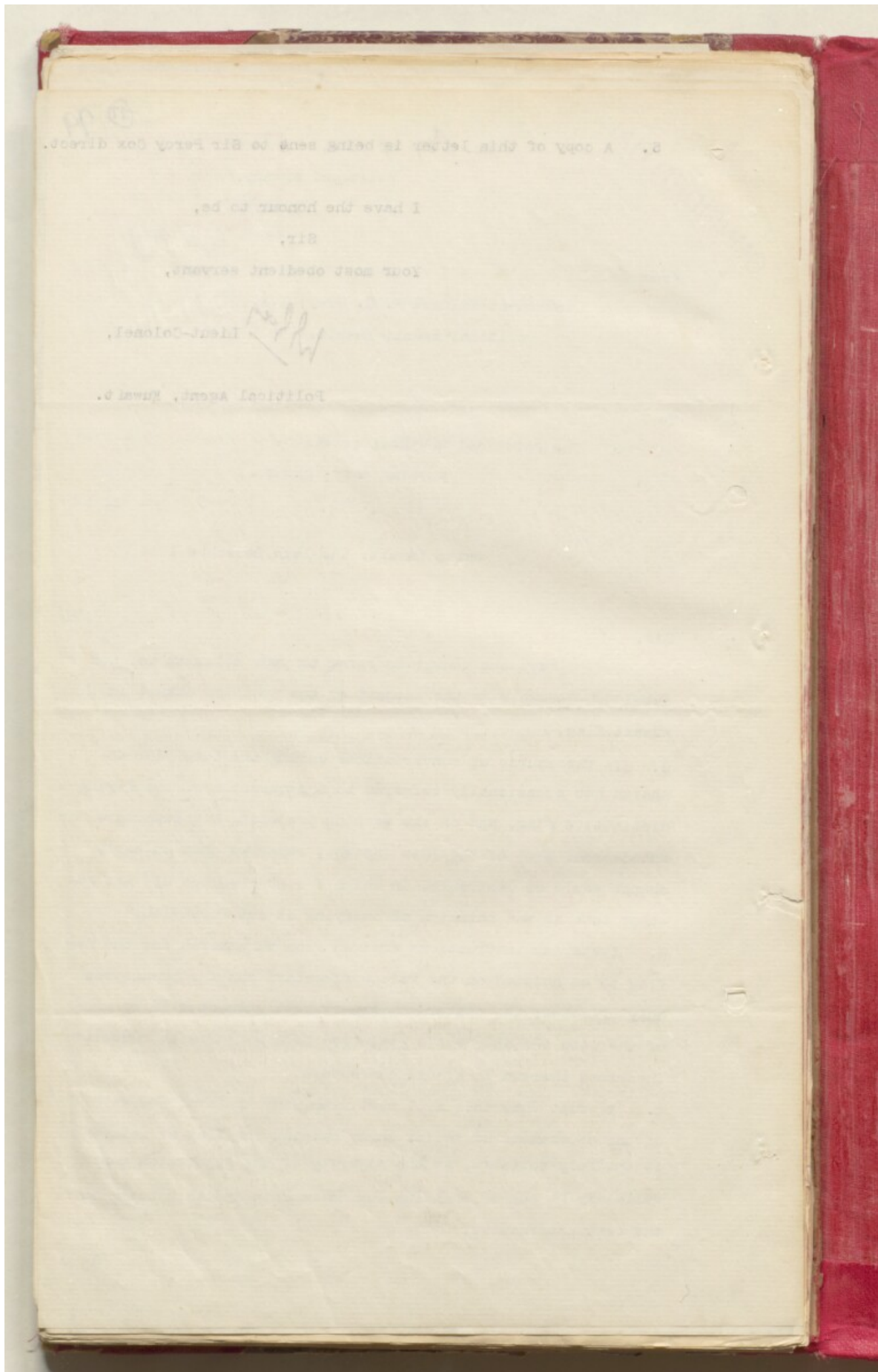
3. Yesterday instructions arrived from Muhammerah for the new flag to be hoisted on the Palace flagstaff and the change was duly effected; the pattern chosen is that suggested in my note of the 14th instant, viz a plain red back ground with "Kuwait" inscribed thereon in Arabic characters.

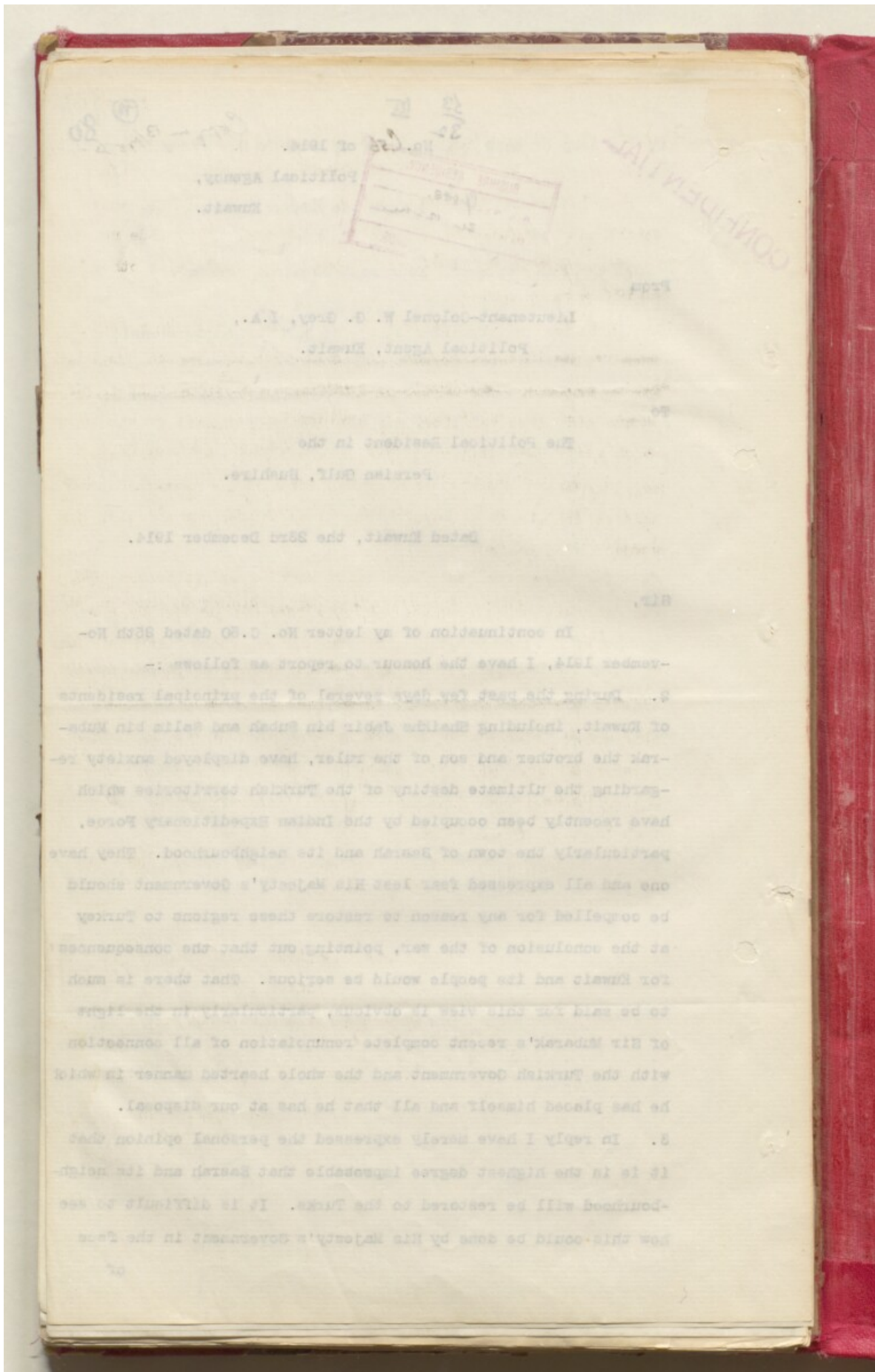
4. I trust that this will meet with your approval and with that of the Government of India: in my opinion the flag as introduced is entirely suitable, as the majority of the population would certainly be shy of adopting the Union Jack and this seems to be the best alternative.

74
A











87
of the "letter of assurances" which I delivered to His Excel-
-lency the Shaikh in accordance with the instructions contained
in your letter No. 402 dated 1st November, but the assurances
having been personal to the Shaikh I have naturally made no re-
-ference to them in conversations with his subjects or other
interested persons.

4. The hope is strongly expressed by all parties in Kuwait
that our forces will advance and occupy the country at least as
far as Baghdad. The object of Kuwaitis in desiring this is two-
-fold, that more territory may ultimately form part of the Bri-
-tish Empire and Protected States, and that if unfortunately
any portion of country occupied has later to be renounced, such
portion may lie at a distance and be quite unconnected with the
Kuwait Principality.

5. The regular dissemination in Kuwait of war news continues,
but it is becoming more difficult as time goes on to explain the
necessity for fighting still to take place in allied rather than
in German territory and why the Germans should be almost inva-
-riably the attacking party. I am glad to be able to report
that there is little or no local distress which can be attribu-
-ted to the war, and that commerce is practically undisturbed,
prices being normal except as regards articles usually imported
from Germany and Austria.

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to Sir Percy Cox di-
-rect.

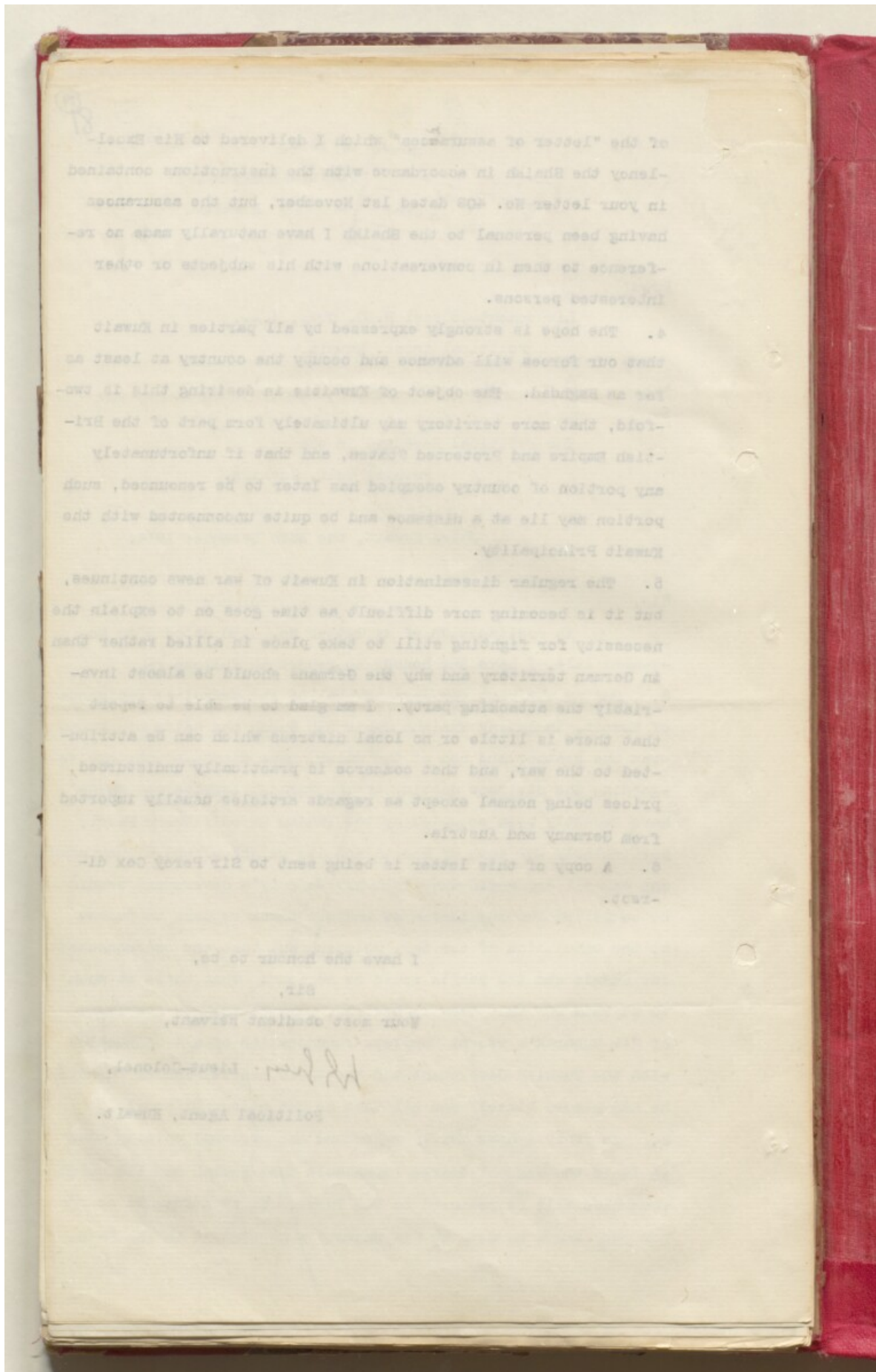
I have the honour to be,

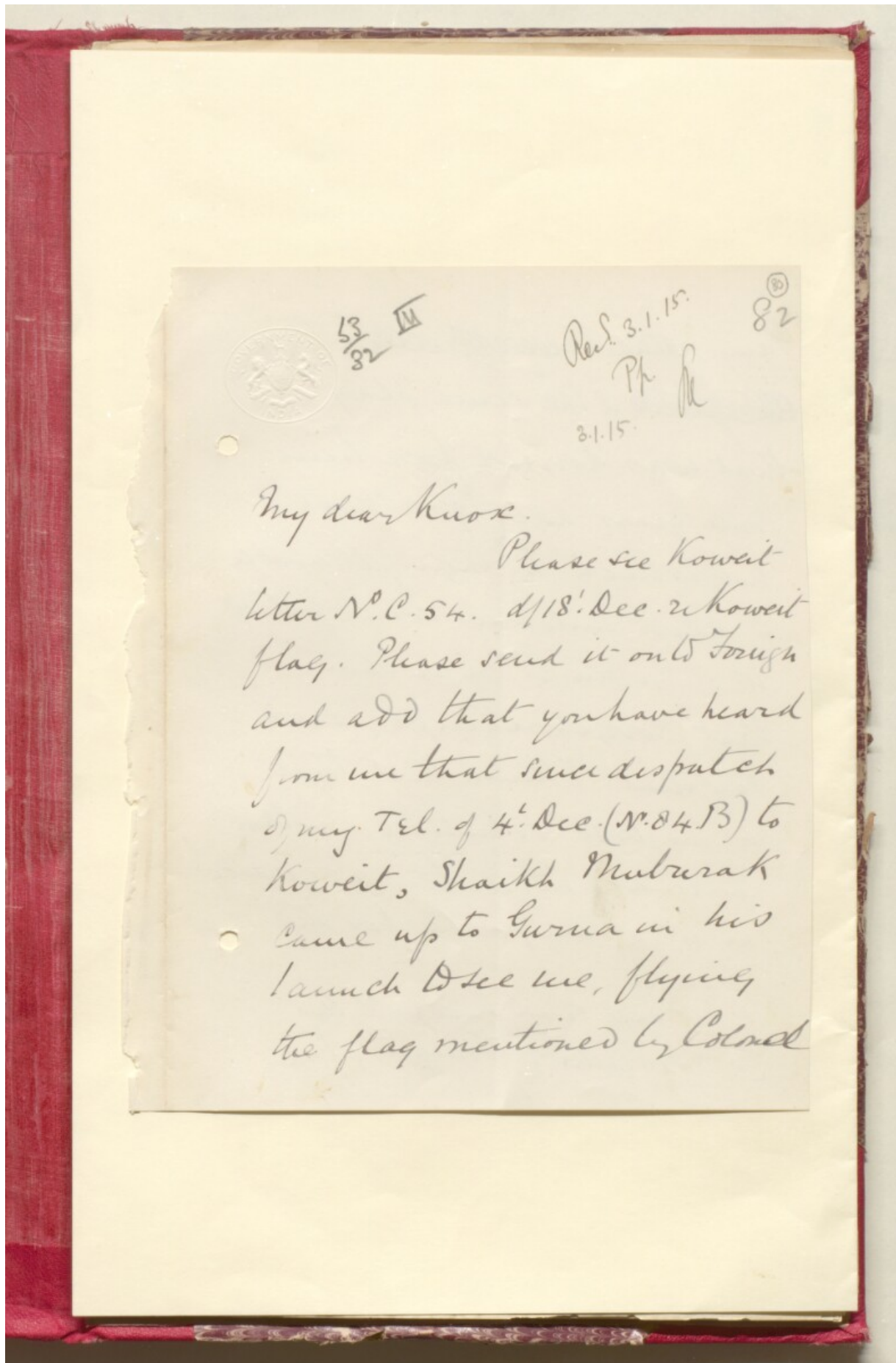
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. H. H. Lieut-Colonel,

Political Agent, Kuwait.





My dear Knox.

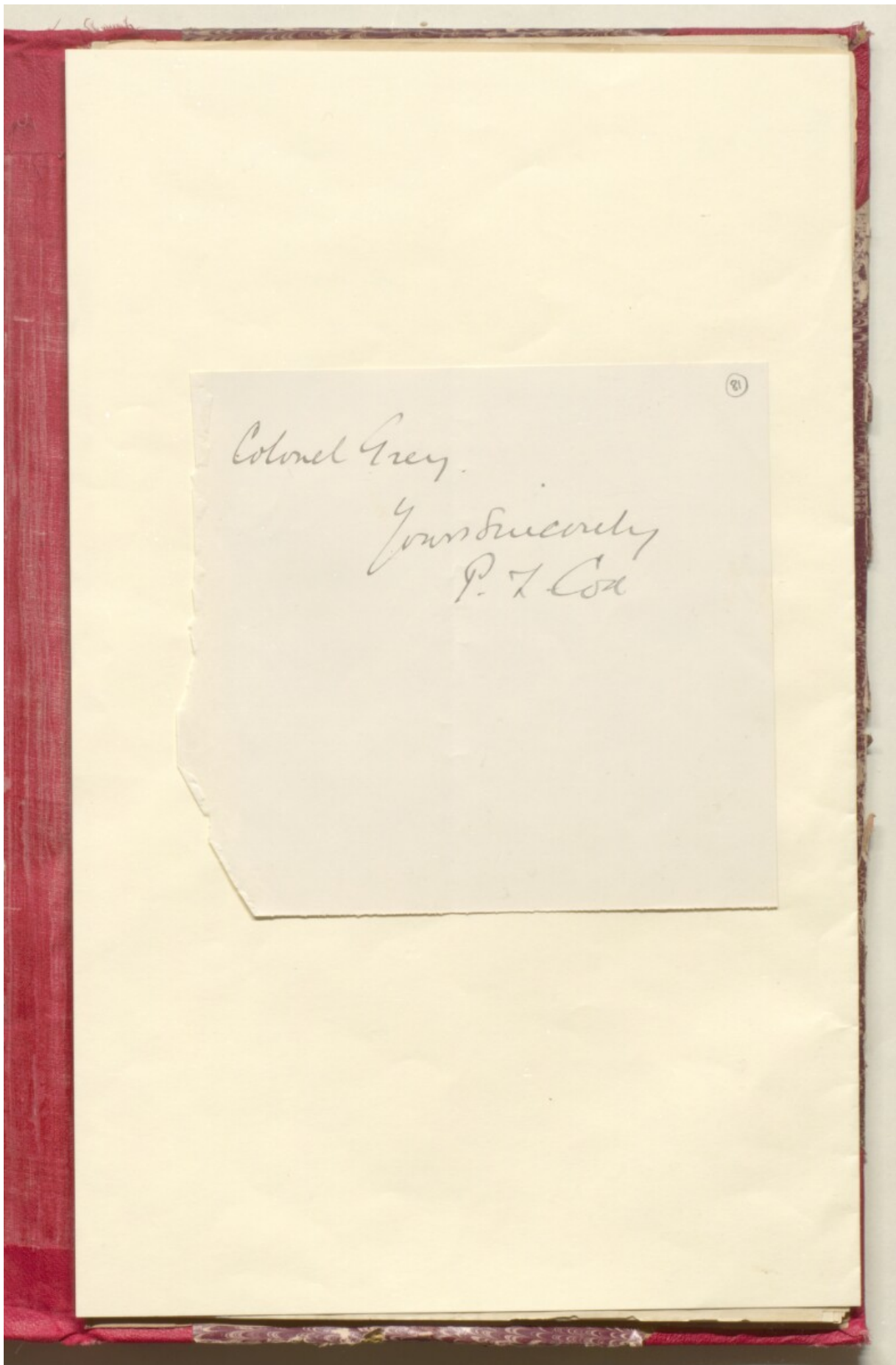
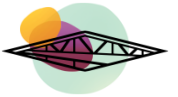
Please see Koweit
letter N^o. C. 54. d/18th Dec. re Koweit
flag. Please send it on to Foreign
and add that you have heard
from me that since dispatch
of my Tel. of 4th Dec. (N^o. 84 B) to
Koweit, Shaikh Mubarak
came up to Gurna in his
launch to see me, flying
the flag mentioned by Colonel

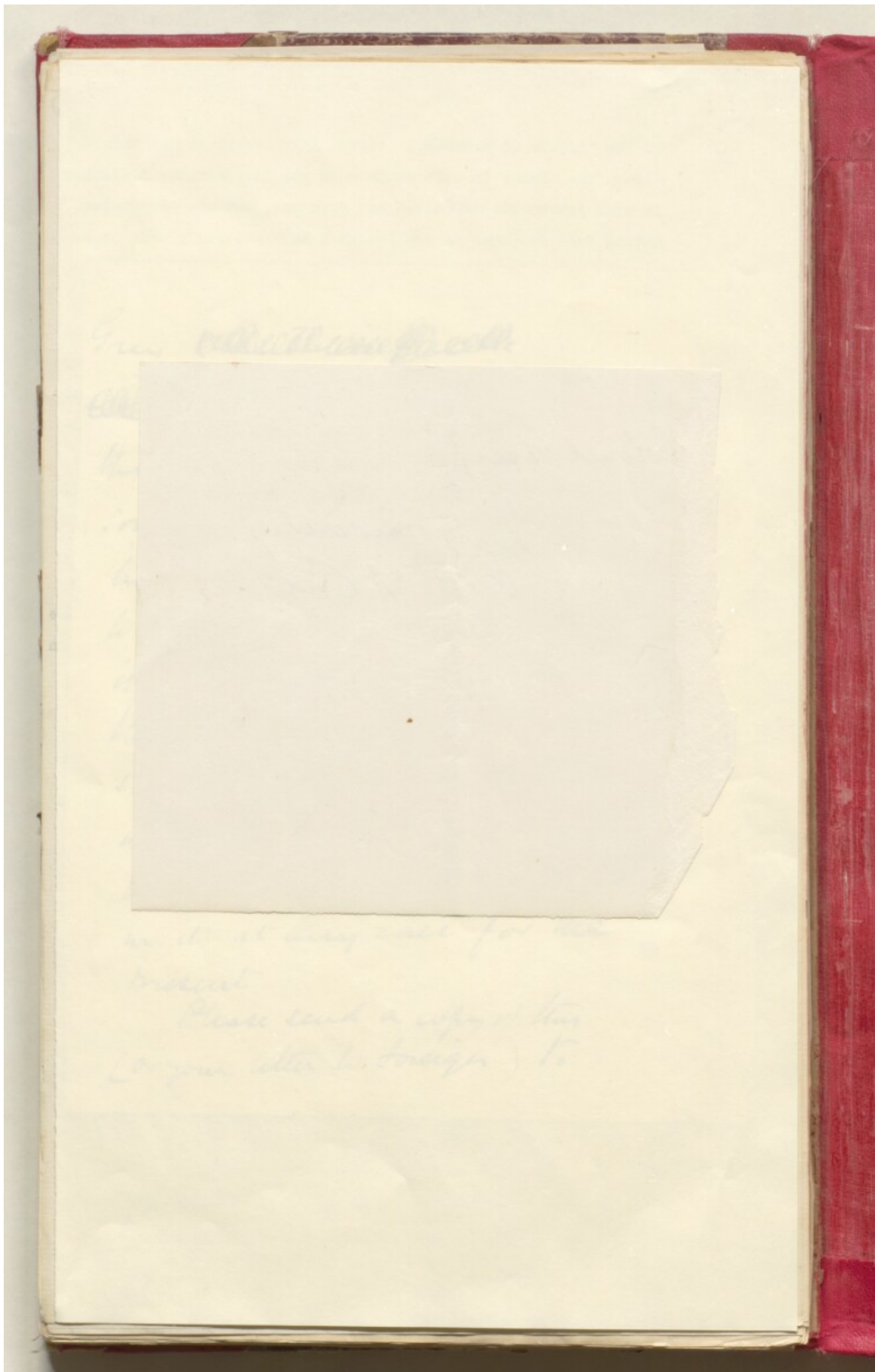


of the "Letter of acknowledgment" which I delivered to His Highness
-fancy the Khalid in accordance with the instructions contained
in your letter No. 408 dated 1st November, and the assurance
having been personal to the Khalid I have naturally made no re-

Grey ~~with the same flag~~
~~the same flag~~ - the same flag
that was devised for him
some years ago (1905 I think)
but which he then felt unable
to adopt unless we could protect
it. You might refer them to
that correspondence; and
say that I think that that
is the best solution and that
we may advisedly acquiesce
in it, at any rate for the
present.

Please send a copy of this
(or your letter to Foreign) to







Telegram.

From Cox Basrah.

To Knox Bushire.

No. 33-B.

Dated 9.1.15.

53
32

83

Following for Political Agent, Kuwait. Begins.

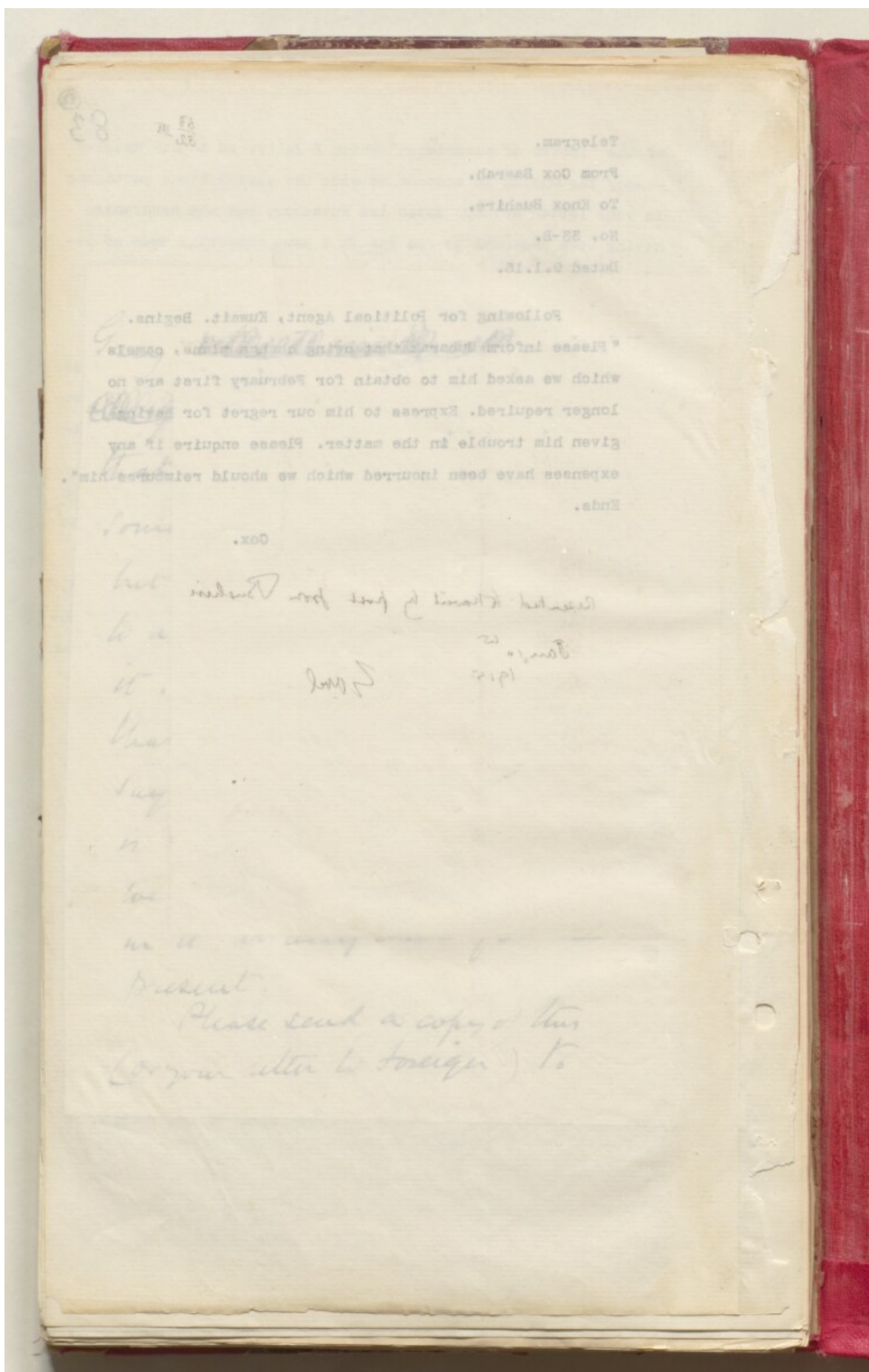
"Please inform Mubarak that owing change plans, camels which we asked him to obtain for February first are no longer required. Express to him our regret for having given him trouble in the matter. Please enquire if any expenses have been incurred which we should reimburse him".
Ends.

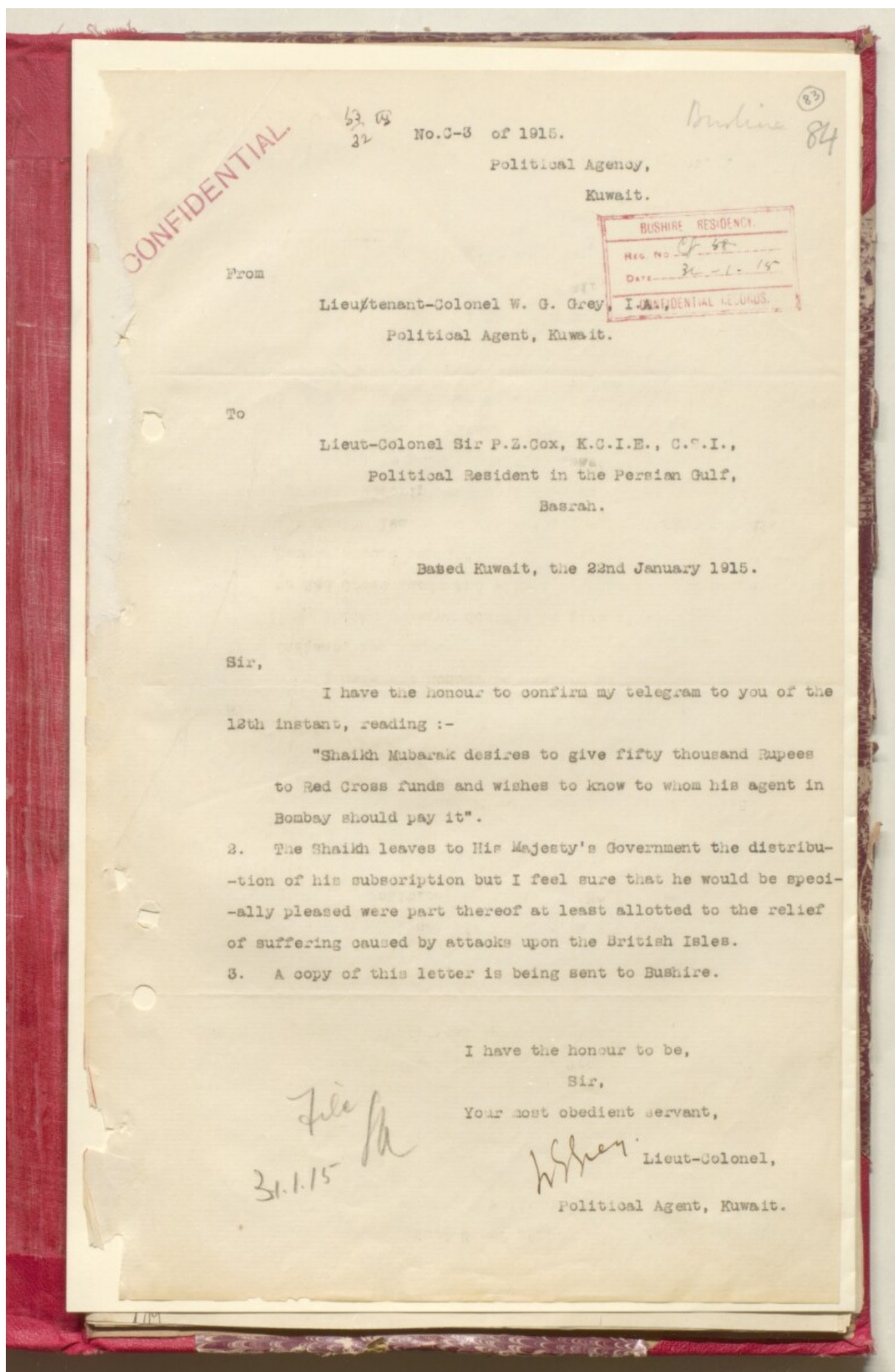
Cox.

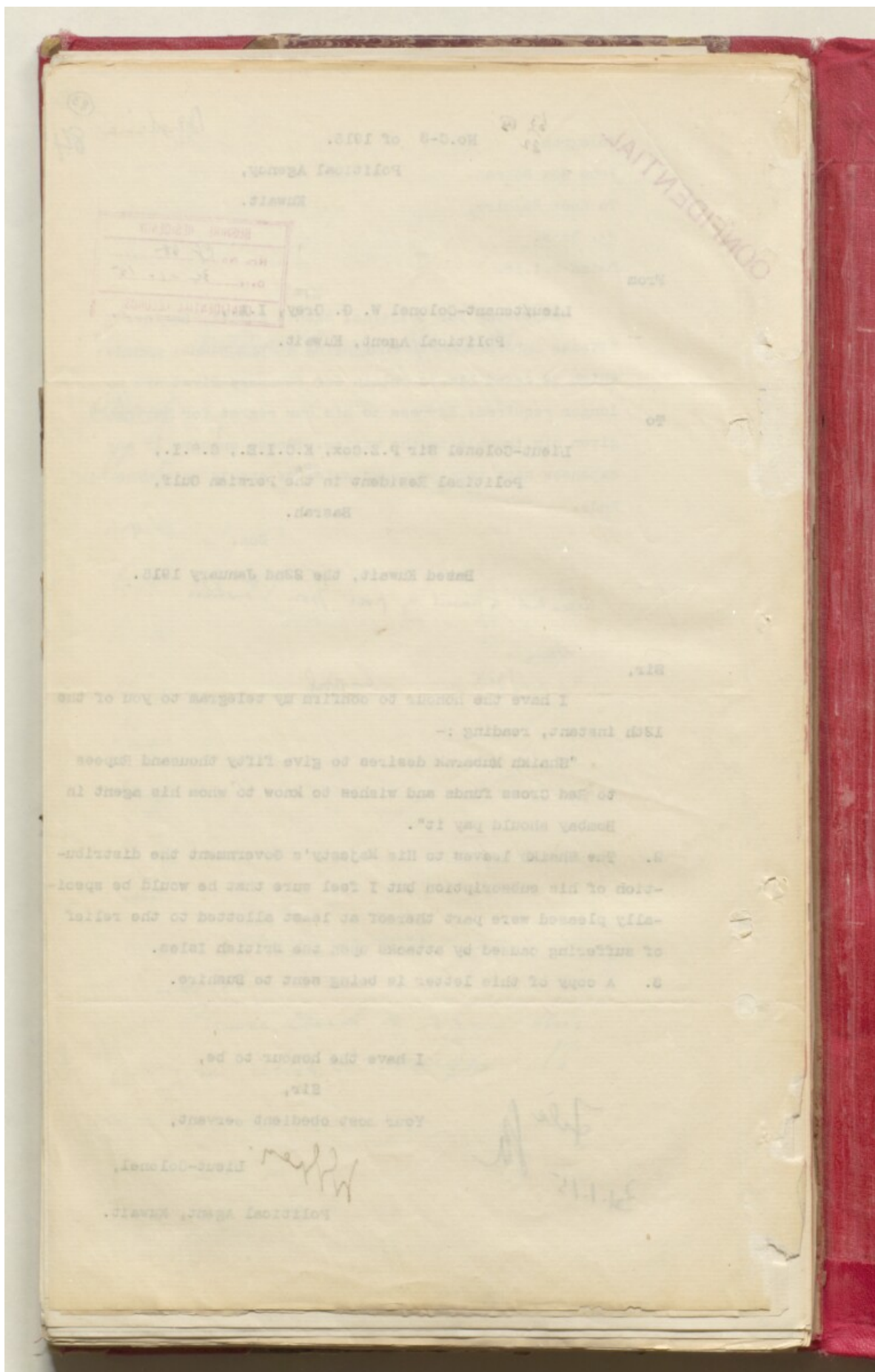
Repeated to Kuwait by post from Bushire

*Jan 10th
1915*

S. M. H.









Confidential.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
REG NO. <u>9/185</u>
DATE <u>8.4.15</u>
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

No. 85- E.A.

(24)

53 fu
3
A copy of the undermentioned paper is forwarded to the Hon'ble the Resident in the Persian Gulf, for information, with reference to the telegram from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No. 166-D.S., dated the 8th February 1915.

By order, etc.,

R. Massey

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

Foreign and Political Department,

Simla :

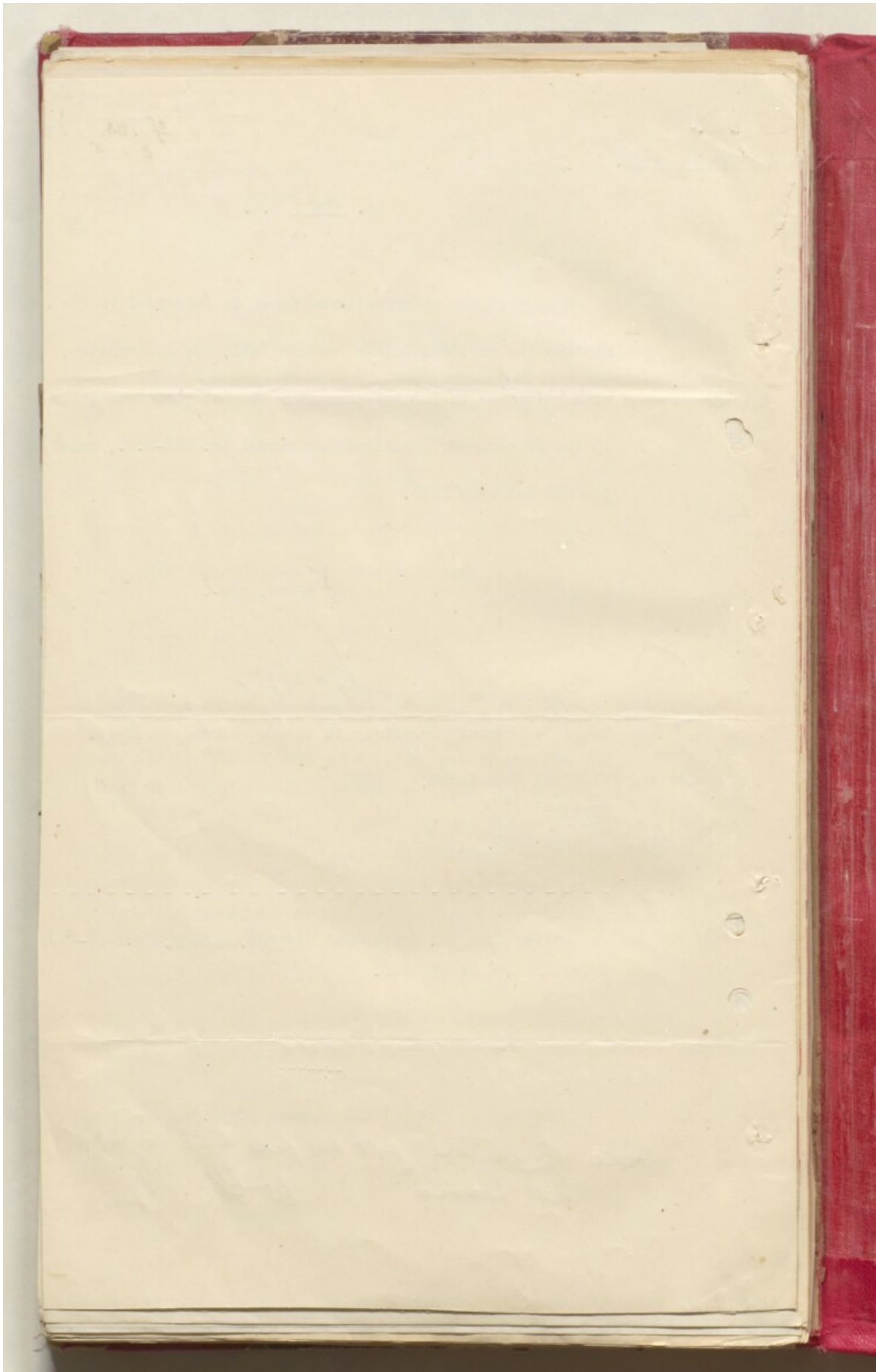
The 26th March 1915.

Letter from the Accountant General, Bombay, No.P-23-4731 dated the 3rd March 1915.

(With 1 spare copy).

File - Have we got the file here or is it at Banna? WCh

1/10





No. P-28-4731.

Bombay, the 3rd March 1915.

From

D. Dewar, Esq.,
Accountant General, Bombay,

To

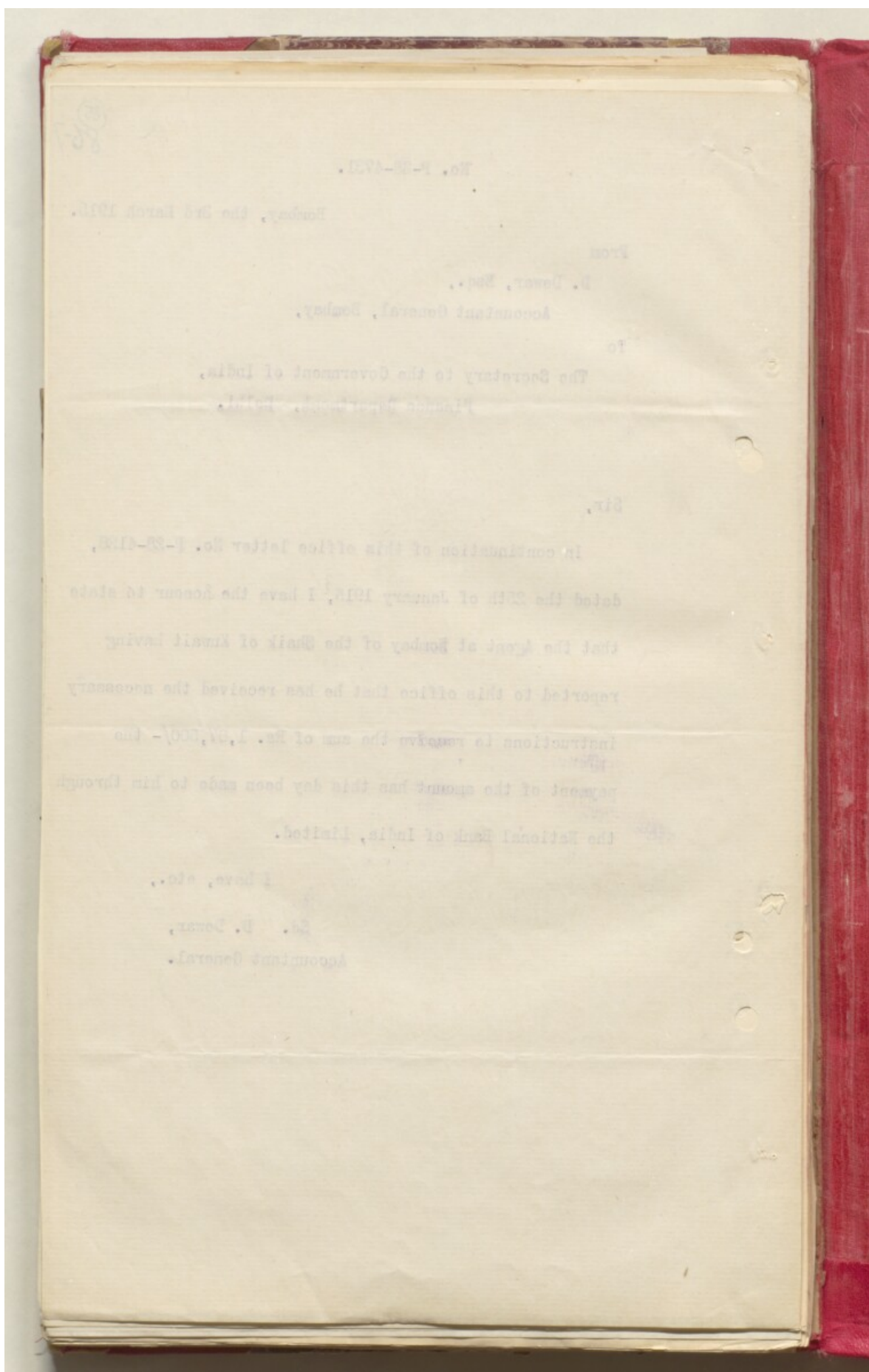
The Secretary to the Government of India,
Finance Department, Delhi.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. P-28-4128,
dated the 25th of January 1915, I have the honour to state
that the Agent at Bombay of the Shaik of Kuwait having
reported to this office that he has received the necessary
instructions to receive the sum of Rs. 1,87,500/- the
payment of the amount has this day been made to him through
the National Bank of India, Limited.

I have, etc.,

Sd. D. Dewar,
Accountant General.





n. No C/8 of 1915.

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt-Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 9th June
1915.

Sir,

According to the "Times", Lord Curzon of Kedleston is reported to have remarked as follows on the occasion of an address by Mr P. Landon on Basrah and the Shatt-ul-Arab, at the Society of Arts, on 15th April last:-

"Hitherto we had had most friendly relations with the Arabs. It was rather a puzzle to him why at those earlier stages of the fighting the Arabs appeared to have sided with the Turks, and it certainly should be the object of our diplomacy to detach them from the side of the Turks and to resume those pleasant relations with them which had characterized our policy during the last 50 years."

And again in the House of Lords on 30th April:-

"and they (the Turks) appeared to have succeeded in pressing into their service the greater part of the Arab tribes in the lower part of Mesopotamia. This was a matter of extreme importance, for we had always maintained, and he thought were still maintaining, friendly relations with the tribes in that part of the world."

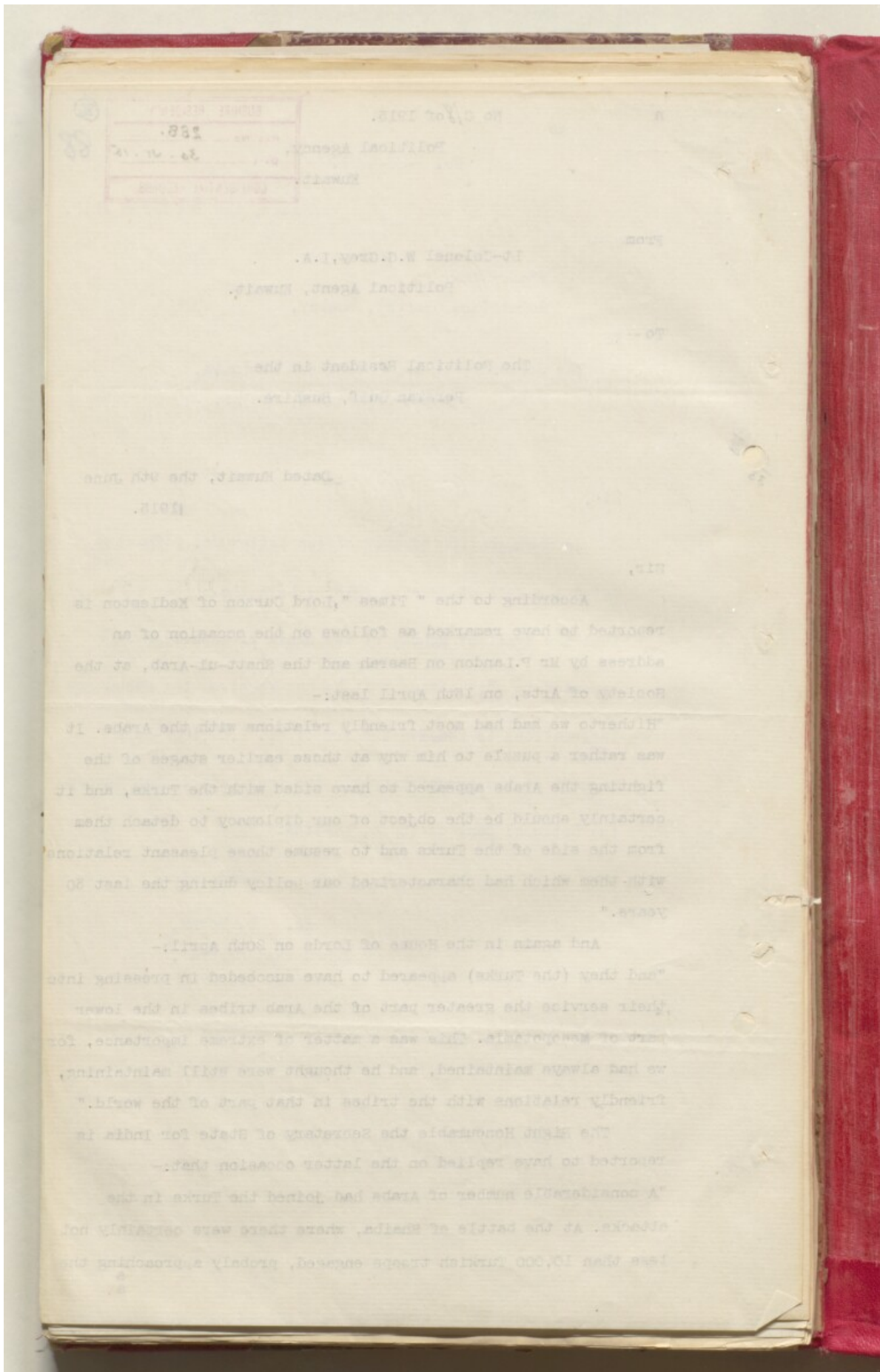
The Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India is reported to have replied on the latter occasion that:-

"A considerable number of Arabs had joined the Turks in the attacks. At the battle of Shaiba, where there were certainly not less than 10,000 Turkish troops engaged, probably approaching the

33

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
RES NO 288.
DATE 30. VI. 15.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

86
88



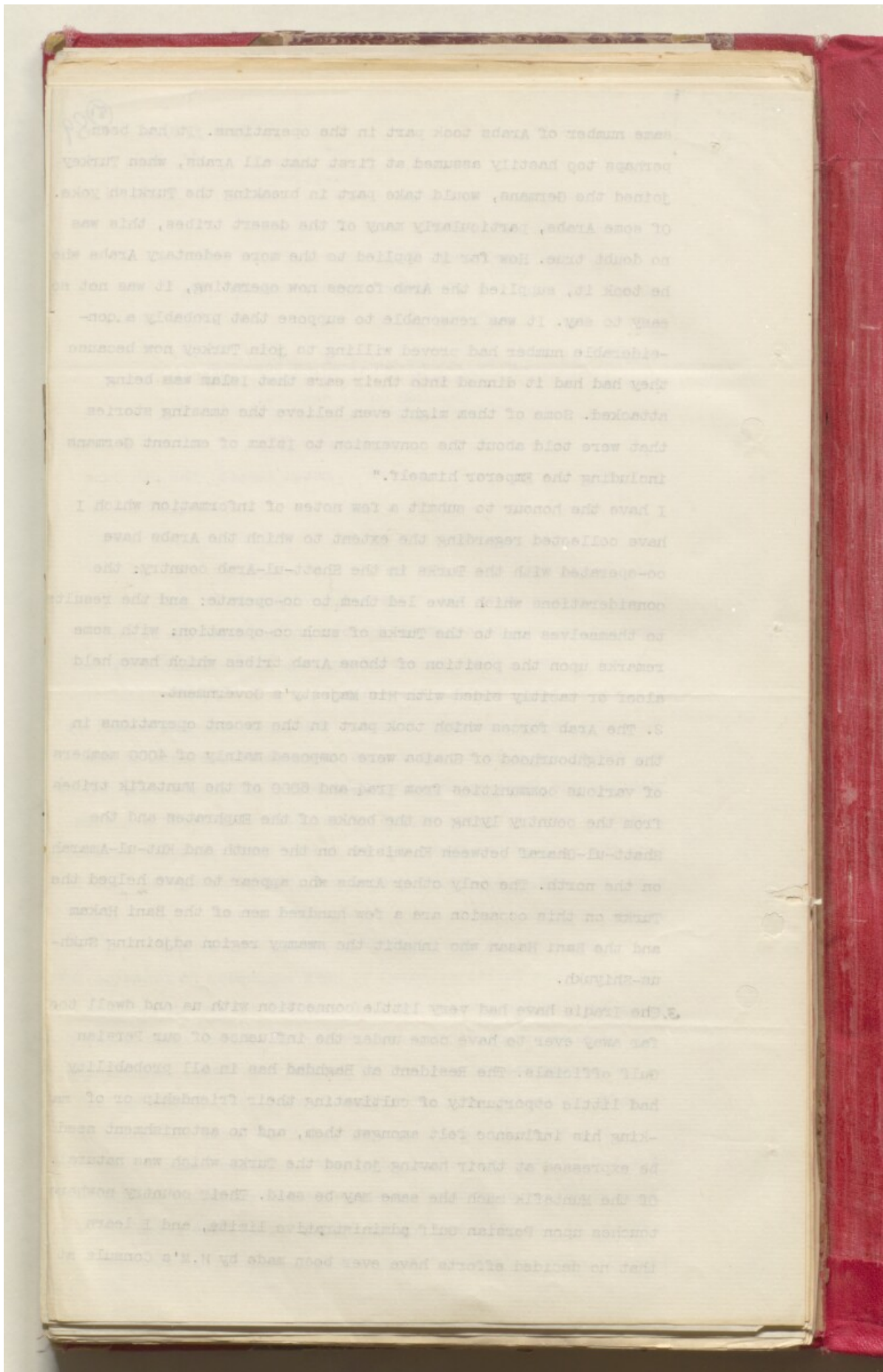


same number of Arabs took part in the operations. It had been ⁽⁸⁷⁾89 perhaps too hastily assumed at first that all Arabs, when Turkey joined the Germans, would take part in breaking the Turkish yoke. Of some Arabs, particularly many of the desert tribes, this was no doubt true. How far it applied to the more sedentary Arabs who he took it, supplied the Arab forces now operating, it was not so easy to say. It was reasonable to suppose that probably a considerable number had proved willing to join Turkey now because they had had it dinned into their ears that Islam was being attacked. Some of them might even believe the amazing stories that were told about the conversion to Islam of eminent Germans including the Emperor himself."

I have the honour to submit a few notes of information which I have collected regarding the extent to which the Arabs have co-operated with the Turks in the Shatt-ul-Arab country: the considerations which have led them to co-operate: and the results to themselves and to the Turks of such co-operation: with some remarks upon the position of those Arab tribes which have held aloof or tacitly sided with His Majesty's Government.

2. The Arab forces which took part in the recent operations in the neighbourhood of Shaiba were composed mainly of 4000 members of various communities from Iraq and 6000 of the Muntafik tribes from the country lying on the banks of the Euphrates and the Shatt-ul-Gharaf between Khamisiah on the south and Kut-ul-Amarah on the north. The only other Arabs who appear to have helped the Turks on this occasion are a few hundred men of the Bani Hakam and the Bani Hasan who inhabit the swampy region adjoining Sukhus-Shiyukh.

3. The Iraqis have had very little connection with us and dwell too far away ever to have come under the influence of our Persian Gulf officials. The Resident at Baghdad has in all probability had little opportunity of cultivating their friendship or of making his influence felt amongst them, and no astonishment need be expressed at their having joined the Turks which was natural. Of the Muntafik much the same may be said. Their country nowhere touches upon Persian Gulf administrative limits, and I learn that no decided efforts have ever been made by H.M.'s Consuls at

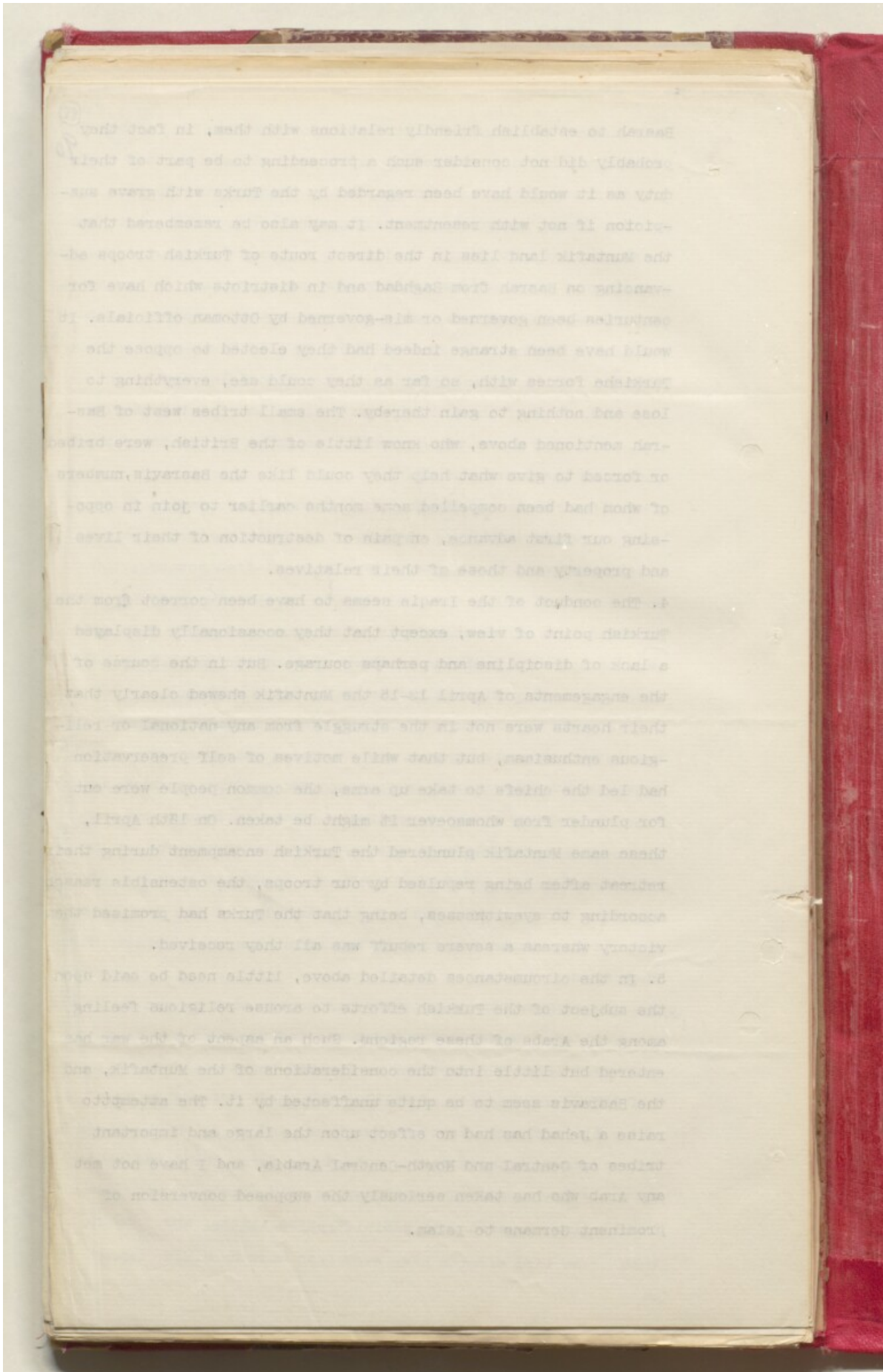


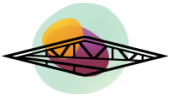


Basrah to establish friendly relations with them; in fact they⁹⁰ probably did not consider such a proceeding to be part of their duty as it would have been regarded by the Turks with grave suspicion if not with resentment. It may also be remembered that the Muntafik land lies in the direct route of Turkish troops advancing on Basrah from Baghdad and in districts which have for centuries been governed or mis-governed by Ottoman officials. It would have been strange indeed had they elected to oppose the Turkish forces with, so far as they could see, everything to lose and nothing to gain thereby. The small tribes west of Basrah mentioned above, who know little of the British, were bribed or forced to give what help they could like the Basrahis, numbers of whom had been compelled some months earlier to join in opposing our first advance, on pain of destruction of their lives and property and those of their relatives.

4. The conduct of the Iraqis seems to have been correct from the Turkish point of view, except that they occasionally displayed a lack of discipline and perhaps courage. But in the course of the engagements of April 13-15 the Muntafik shewed clearly that their hearts were not in the struggle from any national or religious enthusiasm, but that while motives of self-preservation had led the chiefs to take up arms, the common people were out for plunder from whomsoever it might be taken. On 13th April, these same Muntafik plundered the Turkish encampment during their retreat after being repulsed by our troops, the ostensible reason according to eyewitnesses, being that the Turks had promised them victory whereas a severe rebuff was all they received.

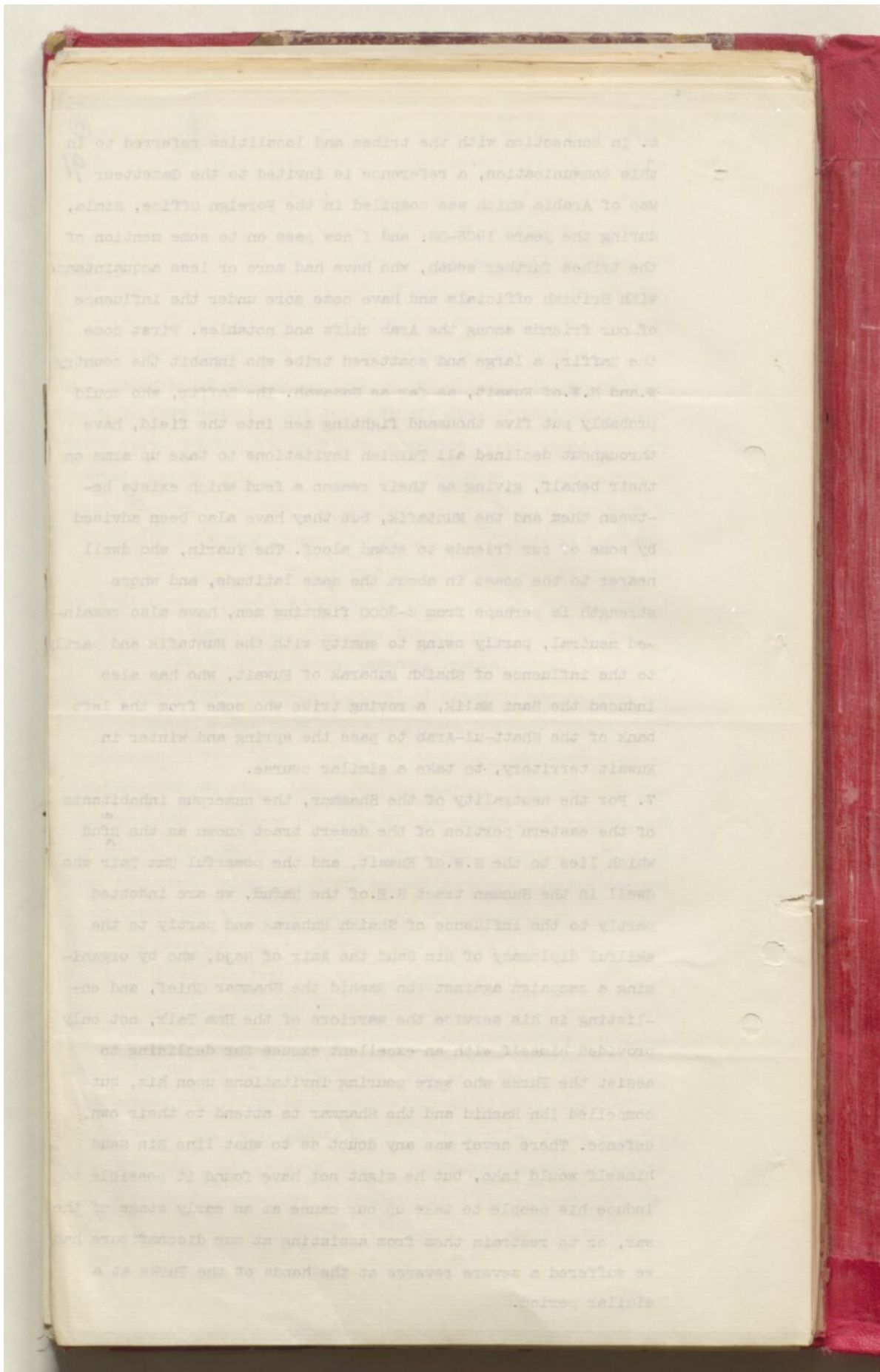
5. In the circumstances detailed above, little need be said upon the subject of the Turkish efforts to arouse religious feeling among the Arabs of these regions. Such an aspect of the war has entered but little into the considerations of the Muntafik, and the Basrahis seem to be quite unaffected by it. The attempt to raise a Jihad has had no effect upon the large and important tribes of Central and North-Central Arabia, and I have not met any Arab who has taken seriously the supposed conversion of prominent Germans to Islam.





6. In connection with the tribes and localities referred to in this communication, a reference is invited to the Gazetteer ⁽⁸⁹⁾ 91 Map of Arabia which was compiled in the Foreign Office, Simla, during the years 1905-08; and I now pass on to some mention of the tribes further south, who have had more or less acquaintance with British officials and have come more under the influence of our friends among the Arab chiefs and notables. First come the Zaffir, a large and scattered tribe who inhabit the country W. and N.W. of Kuwait, as far as Samawah. The Zaffir, who could probably put five thousand fighting men into the field, have throughout declined all Turkish invitations to take up arms on their behalf, giving as their reason a feud which exists between them and the Muntafik, but they have also been advised by some of our friends to stand aloof. The Yuarin, who dwell nearer to the coast in about the same latitude, and whose strength is perhaps from 2-3000 fighting men, have also remained neutral, partly owing to enmity with the Muntafik and partly to the influence of Shaikh Mubarak of Kuwait, who has also induced the Bani Malik, a roving tribe who come from the left bank of the Shatt-ul-Arab to pass the spring and winter in Kuwait territory, to take a similar course.

7. For the neutrality of the Shammar, the numerous inhabitants of the eastern portion of the desert tract known as the Nafud^a which lies to the S.W. of Kuwait, and the powerful Umm Tair who dwell in the Summan tract S.E. of the Nafud, we are indebted partly to the influence of Shaikh Mubarak and partly to the skilful diplomacy of Bin Saud the Amir of Nejd, who by organising a campaign against Ibn Rashid the Shammar Chief, and enlisting in his service the warriors of the Umm Tair, not only provided himself with an excellent excuse for declining to assist the Turks who were pouring invitations upon him, but compelled Ibn Rashid and the Shammar to attend to their own defence. There never was any doubt as to what line Bin Saud himself would take, but he might not have found it possible to induce his people to take up our cause at an early stage of the war, or to restrain them from assisting at our discomfiture had we suffered a severe reverse at the hands of the Turks at a similar period.





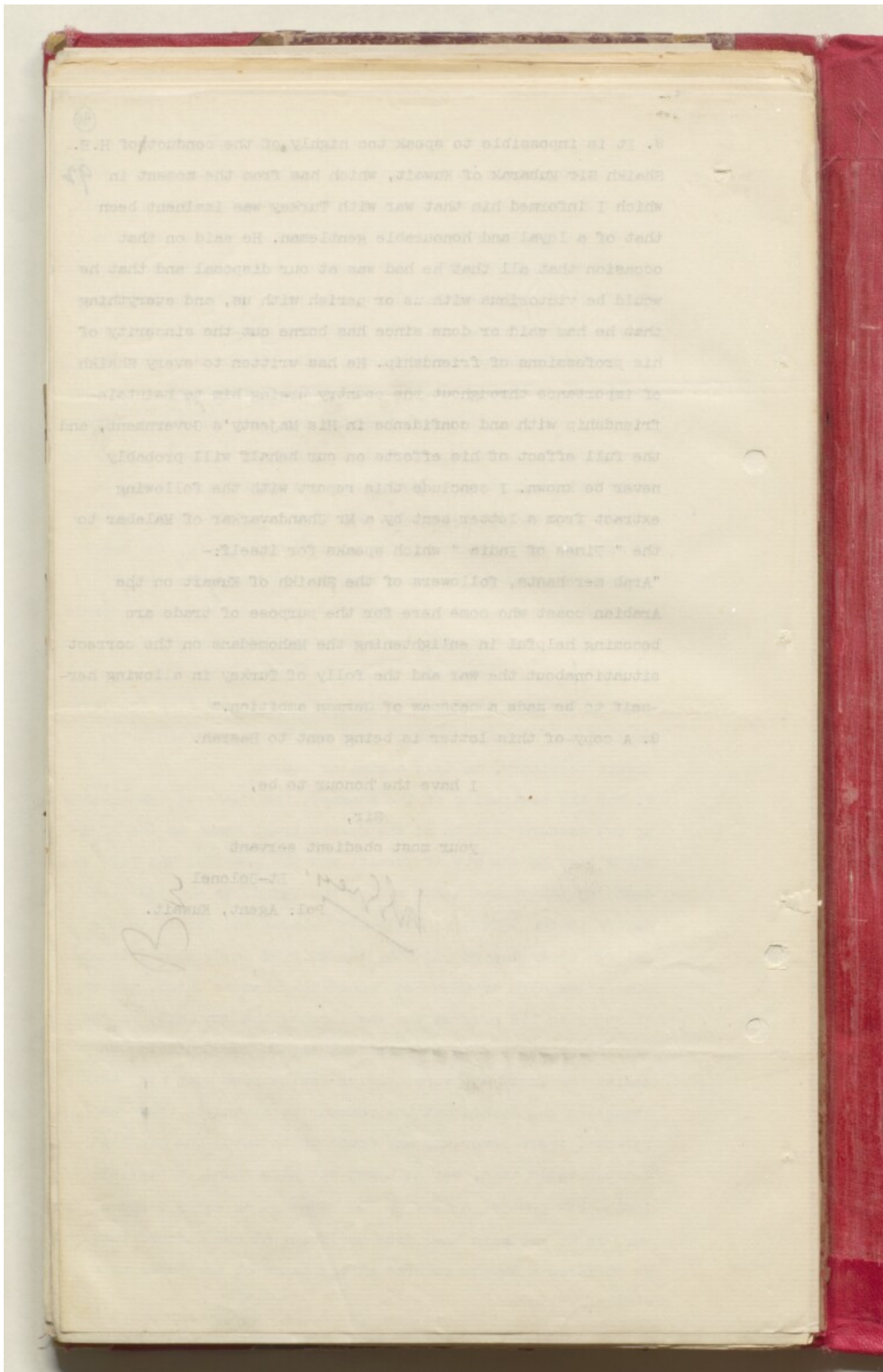
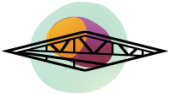
8. It is impossible to speak too highly of the conduct of H.E. Shaikh Sir Mubarak of Kuwait, which has from the moment in which I informed him that war with Turkey was imminent been that of a loyal and honourable gentleman. He said on that occasion that all that he had was at our disposal and that he would be victorious with us or perish with us, and everything that he has said or done since has borne out the sincerity of his professions of friendship. He has written to every Shaikh of importance throughout the country urging him to maintain friendship with and confidence in His Majesty's Government, and the full effect of his efforts on our behalf will probably never be known. I conclude this report with the following extract from a letter sent by a Mr Chandavarkar of Malabar to the "Times of India" which speaks for itself:-
"Arab merchants, followers of the Shaikh of Kuwait on the Arabian coast who come here for the purpose of trade are becoming helpful in enlightening the Mahomedans on the correct situation about the war and the folly of Turkey in allowing herself to be made a cat paw of German ambition."
9. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

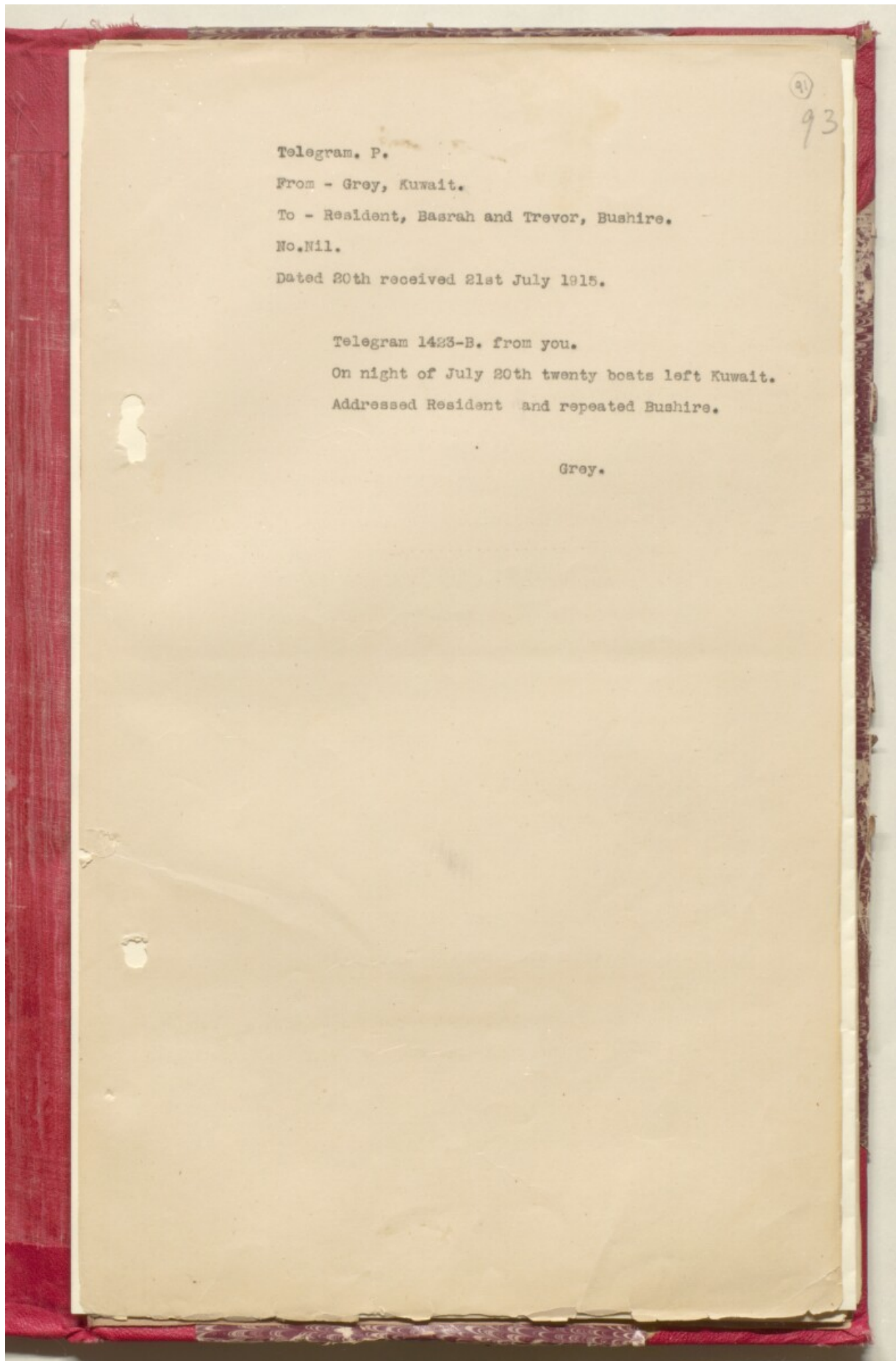
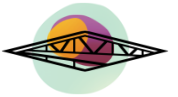
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant

W. S. Sney Lt-Colonel
Pol: Agent, Kuwait.





Telegram. P.

From - Grey, Kuwait.

To - Resident, Basrah and Trevor, Bushire.

No. Nil.

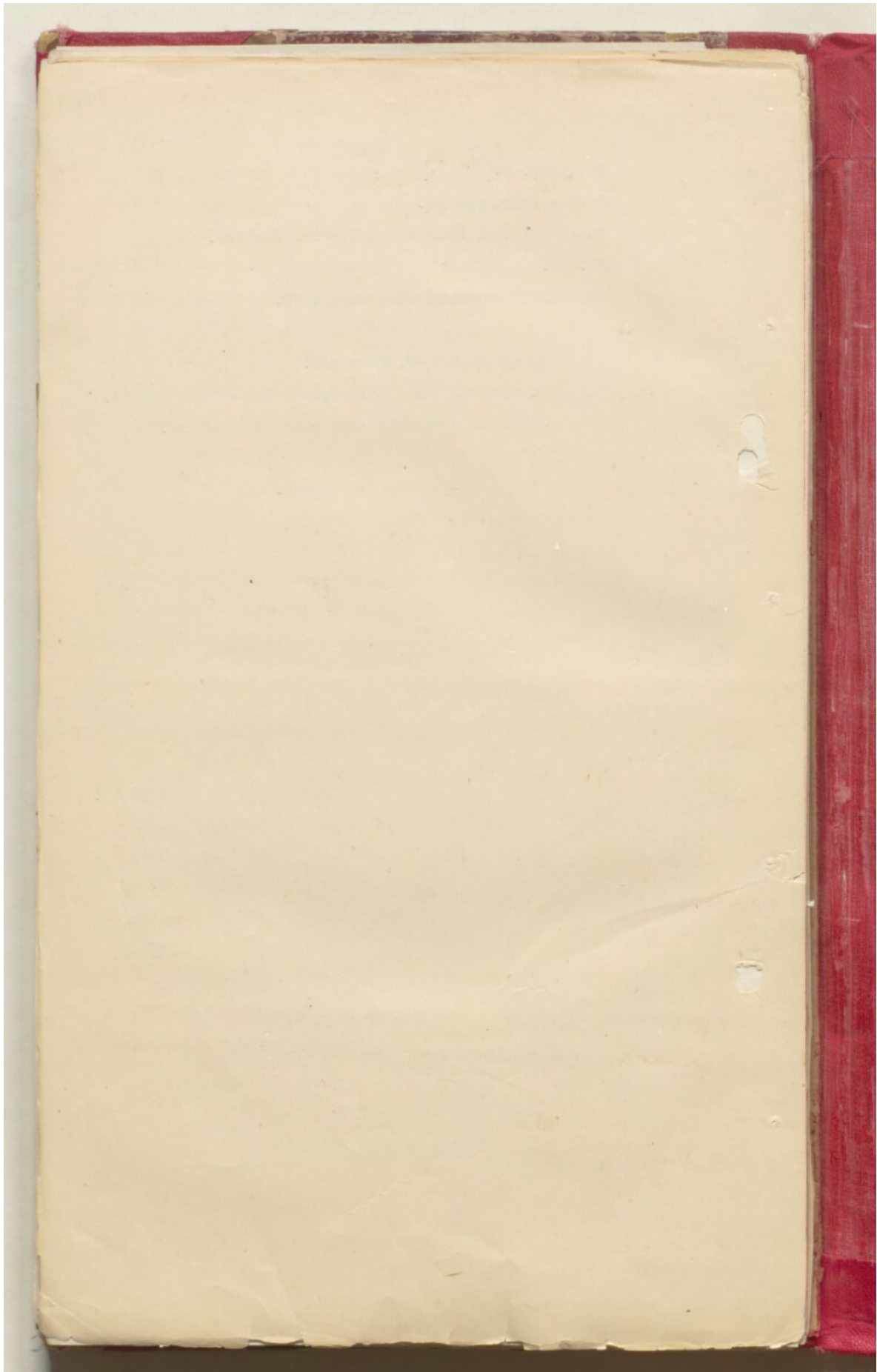
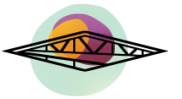
Dated 20th received 21st July 1915.

Telegram 1423-B. from you.

On night of July 20th twenty boats left Kuwait.

Addressed Resident and repeated Bushire.

Gray.





No C 22 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 94⁽⁹²⁾

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt- Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf.

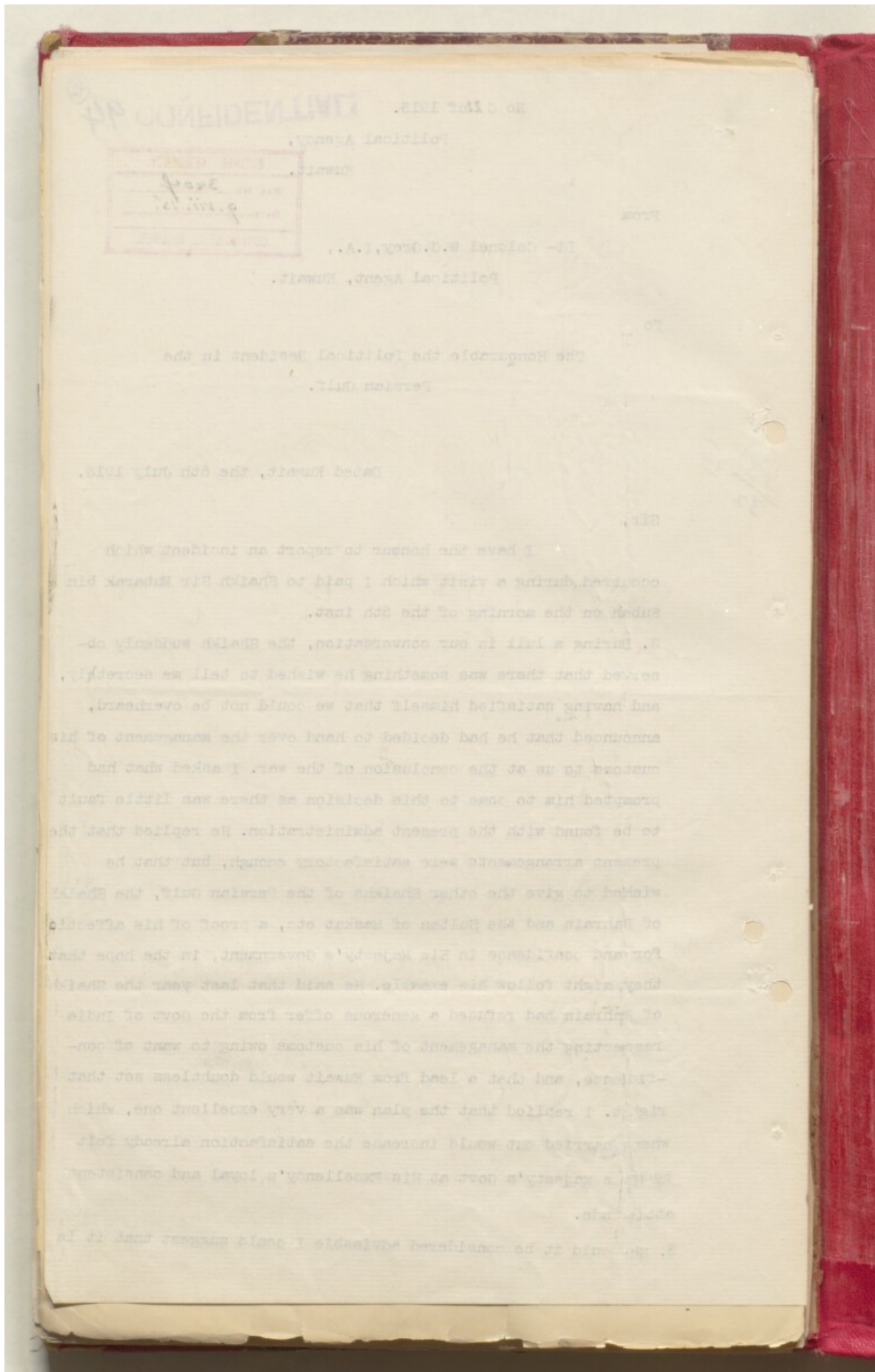
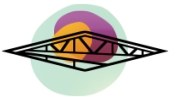
Dated Kuwait, the 6th July 1915.

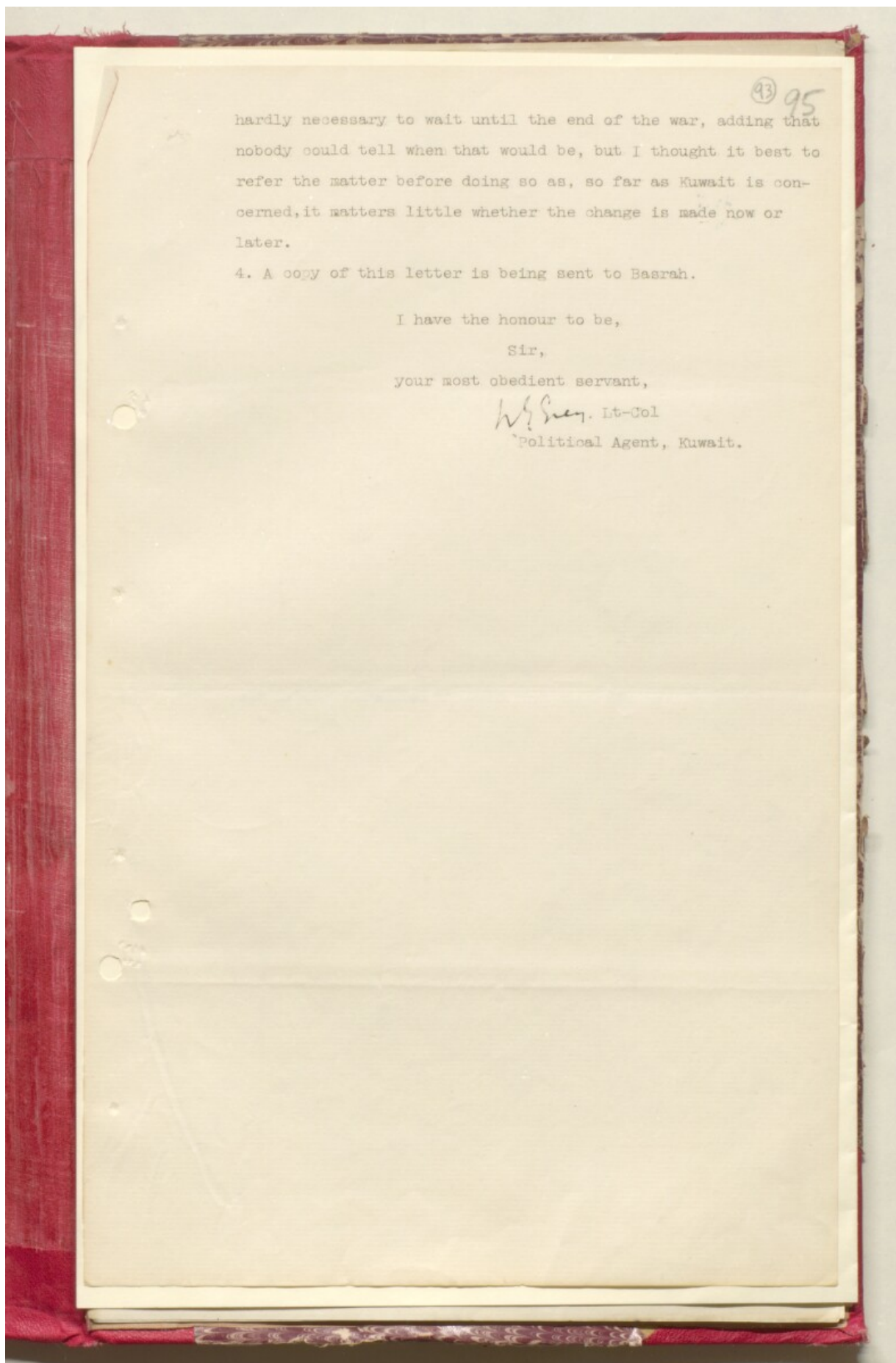
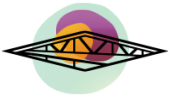
Sir,

I have the honour to report an incident which occurred during a visit which I paid to Shaikh Sir Mubarak bin Subah on the morning of the 5th inst.

2. During a lull in our conversation, the Shaikh suddenly observed that there was something he wished to tell me secretly, and having satisfied himself that we could not be overheard, announced that he had decided to hand over the management of his customs to us at the conclusion of the war. I asked what had prompted him to come to this decision as there was little fault to be found with the present administration. He replied that the present arrangements were satisfactory enough, but that he wished to give the other Shaikhs of the Persian Gulf, the Shaikh of Bahrain and the Sultan of Maskat etc, a proof of his affection and confidence in His Majesty's Government, in the hope that they might follow his example. He said that last year the Shaikh of Bahrain had refused a generous offer from the Govt of India respecting the management of his customs owing to want of confidence, and that a lead from Kuwait would doubtless set that right. I replied that the plan was a very excellent one, which when carried out would increase the satisfaction already felt by His Majesty's Govt at His Excellency's loyal and consistent attitude.

3. Should it be considered advisable I could suggest that it is





hardly necessary to wait until the end of the war, adding that
nobody could tell when that would be, but I thought it best to
refer the matter before doing so as, so far as Kuwait is con-
cerned, it matters little whether the change is made now or
later.

4. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

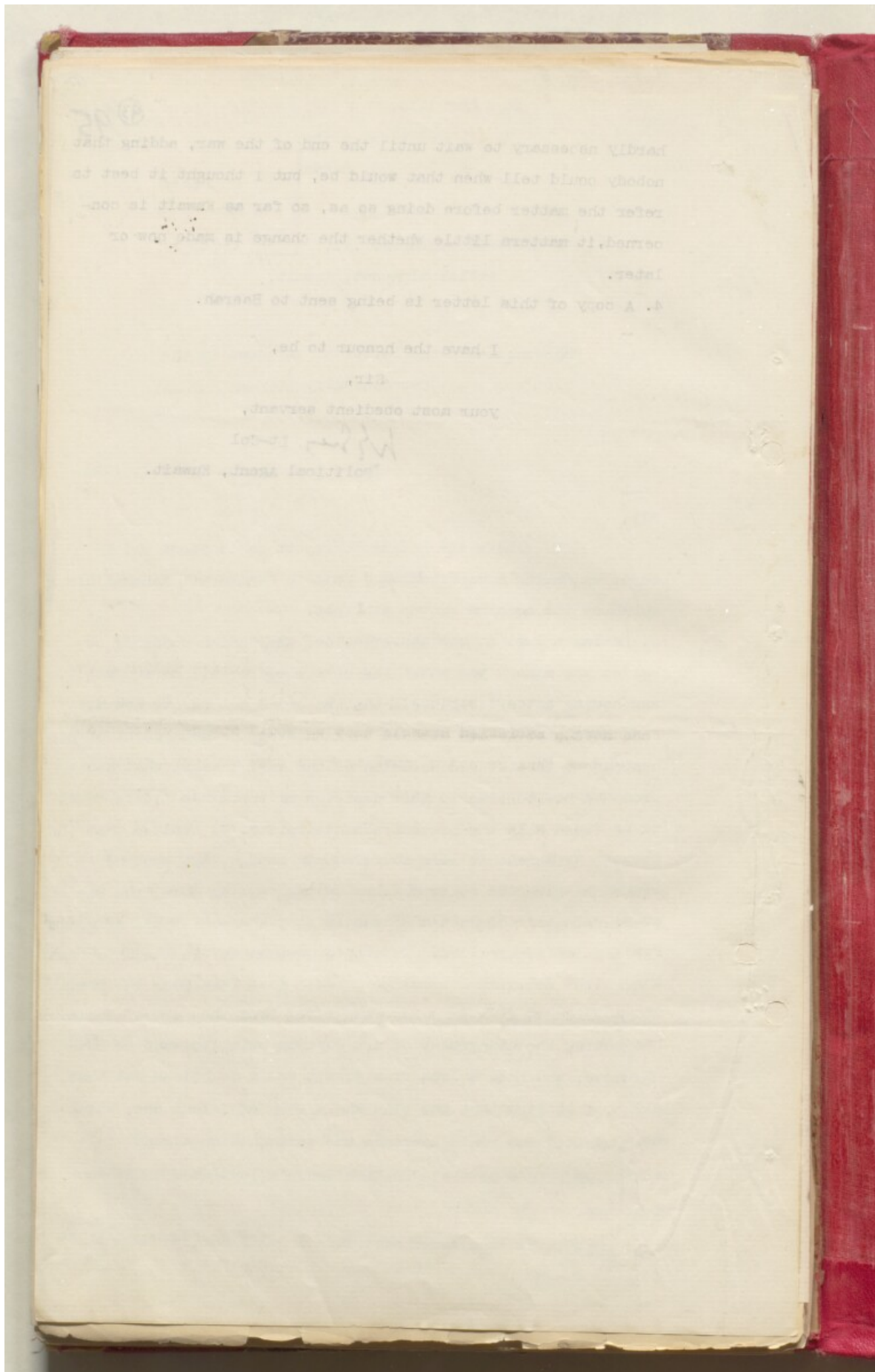
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

W. Sney. Lt-Col

Political Agent, Kuwait.





No C2/ of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 96

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt-Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 6th July 1915.

Sir,

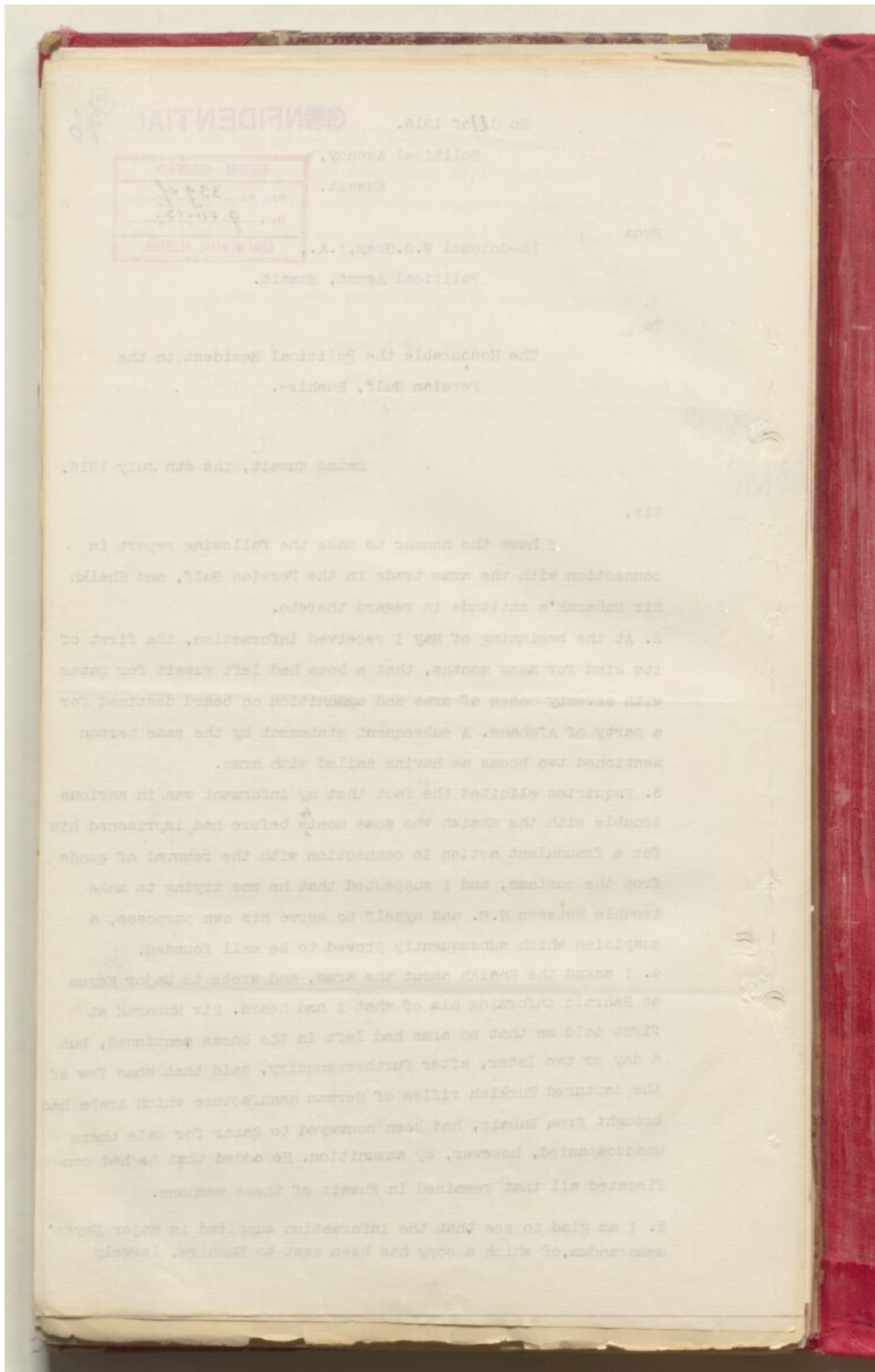
I have the honour to make the following report in connection with the arms trade in the Persian Gulf, and Shaikh Sir Mubarak's attitude in regard thereto.

2. At the beginning of May I received information, the first of its kind for many months, that a boom had left Kuwait for Qatar with seventy cases of arms and ammunition on board destined for a party of Afghans. A subsequent statement by the same person mentioned two booms as having sailed with arms.

3. Enquiries elicited the fact that my informant was in serious trouble with the Shaikh who some months before had imprisoned him for a fraudulent action in connection with the removal of goods from the customs, and I suspected that he was trying to make trouble between H.E. and myself to serve his own purposes, a suspicion which subsequently proved to be well founded.

4. I asked the Shaikh about the arms, and wrote to Major Keyes at Bahrain informing him of what I had heard. Sir Mubarak at first told me that no arms had left in the booms mentioned, but a day or two later, after further enquiry, said that some few of the captured Turkish rifles of German manufacture which Arabs had brought from Zubair, had been conveyed to Qatar for sale there unaccompanied, however, by ammunition. He added that he had confiscated all that remained in Kuwait of these weapons.

5. I am glad to see that the information supplied in Major Keyes' memorandum, of which a copy has been sent to Bushire, largely





confirms that given by the Shaikh, and the incident tends to
support our belief that practically no arms traffic is now carried
on in Kuwait. (45) 97

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

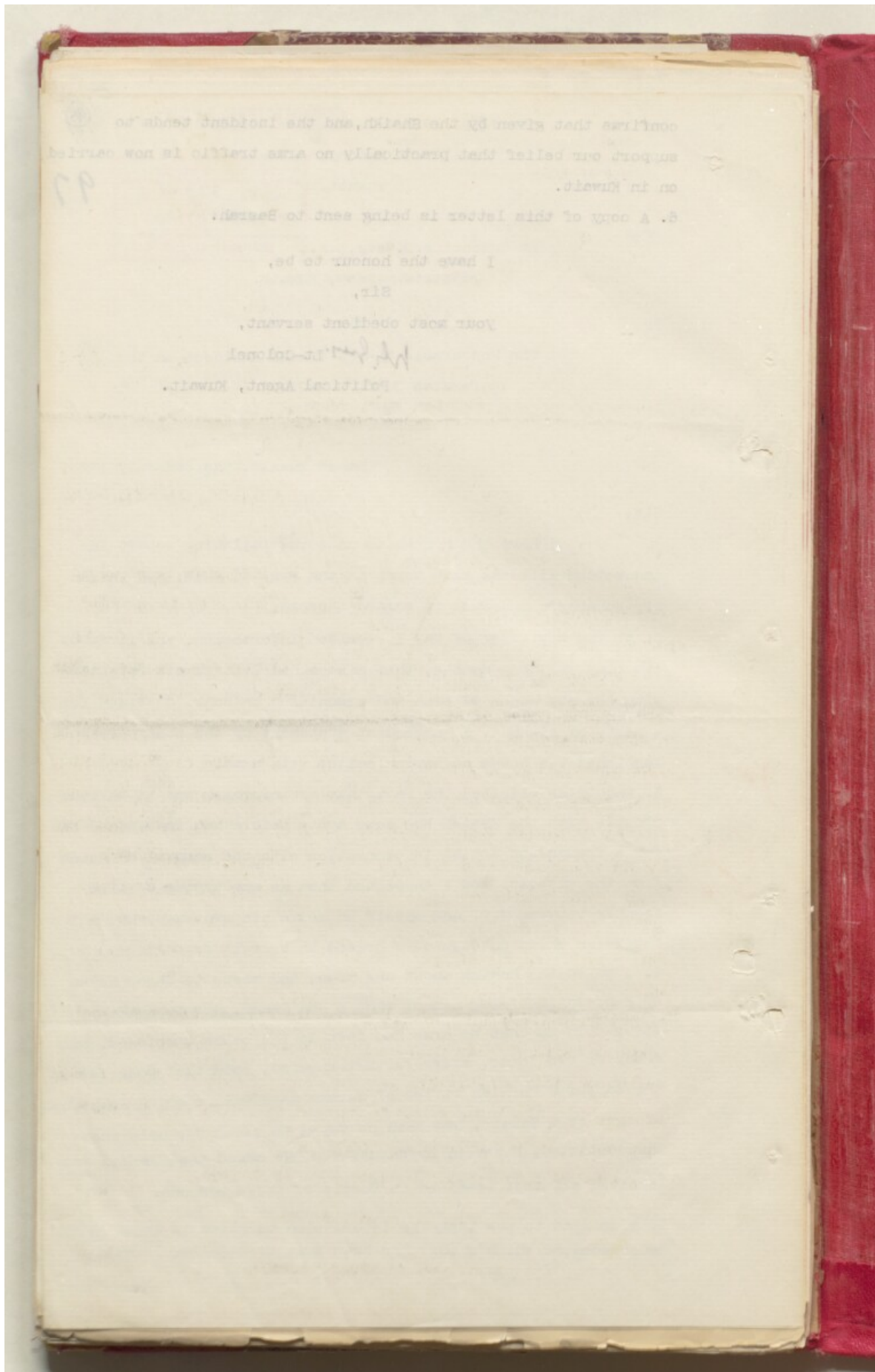
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

W. G. B. G. Lt-Colonel

Political Agent, Kuwait.





No C 24 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 98

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From

LT-Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To

The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, July 22nd 1915

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
your telegram No 1423 B dated 17th inst, asking that H.E. the
Shaikh should co-operate in the landing of troops at Bushire by
the despatch of boats from here, and to describe the action taken
in the matter to which it refers.

2. The telegram arrived on the 19th inst, and on the Shaikh being
made aware of its contents he at once ordered the despatch of 30
booms to Bushire as soon as they could be got ready. It was ar-
-ranged that they should leave on the night of the 20th, but the
entire absence of wind prevented their actually getting under
weigh until midday yesterday. I have sent over with the booms
one of the Agency boatmen who has orders to report to Major Tre-
-vor at once on the arrival of the fleet at the Reshire anchor-
-age.

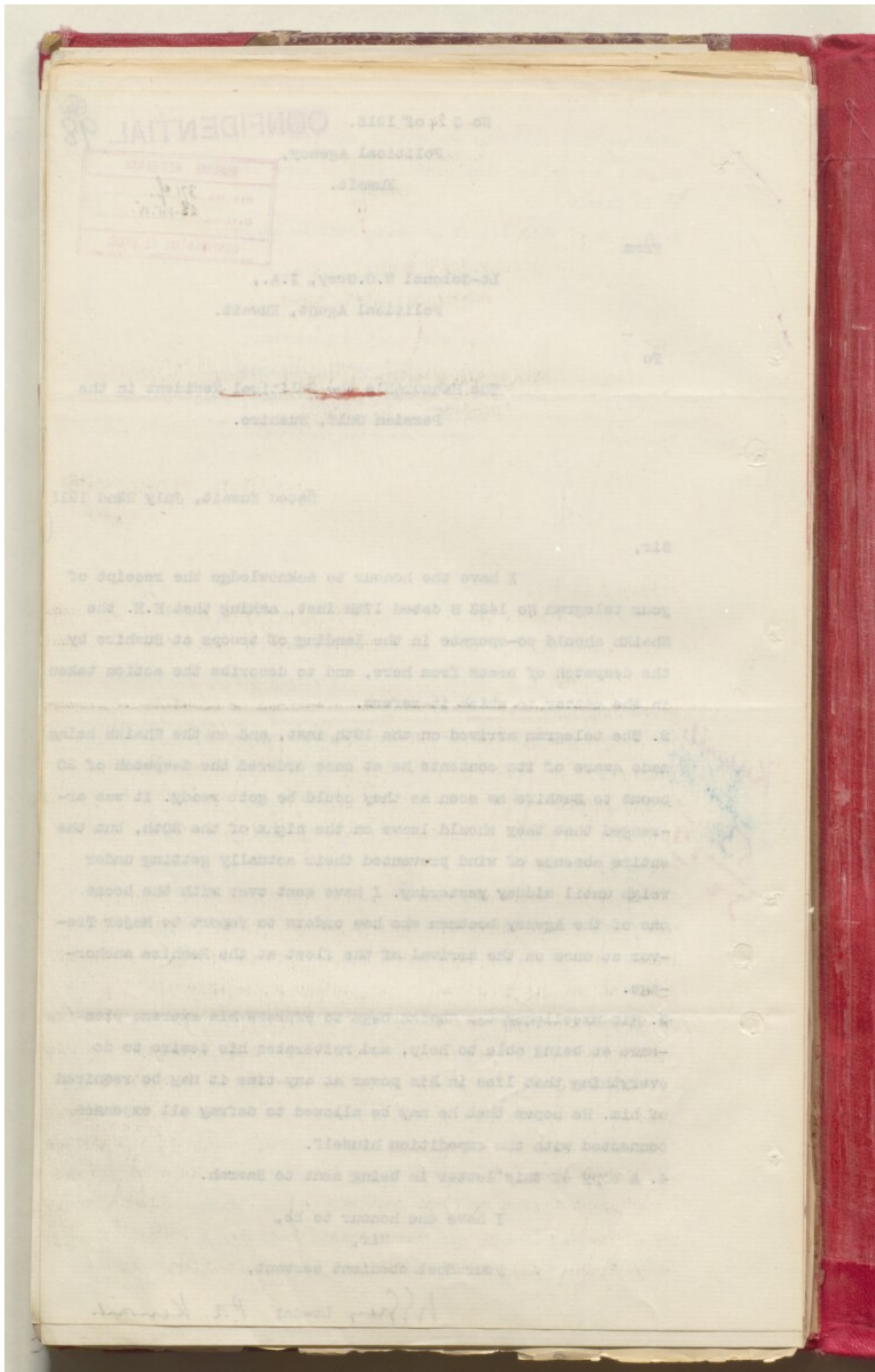
3. His Excellency the Shaikh begs to express his extreme plea-
-sure at being able to help, and reiterates his desire to do
everything that lies in his power at any time it may be required
of him. He hopes that he may be allowed to defray all expenses
connected with the expedition himself.

4. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,

W.G. Grey Lt-Col P.A. Kuwait

Kuwait-53/32





No 615 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 97
99

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt-Colonel W G Gray, I.A.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 22nd July
1915.

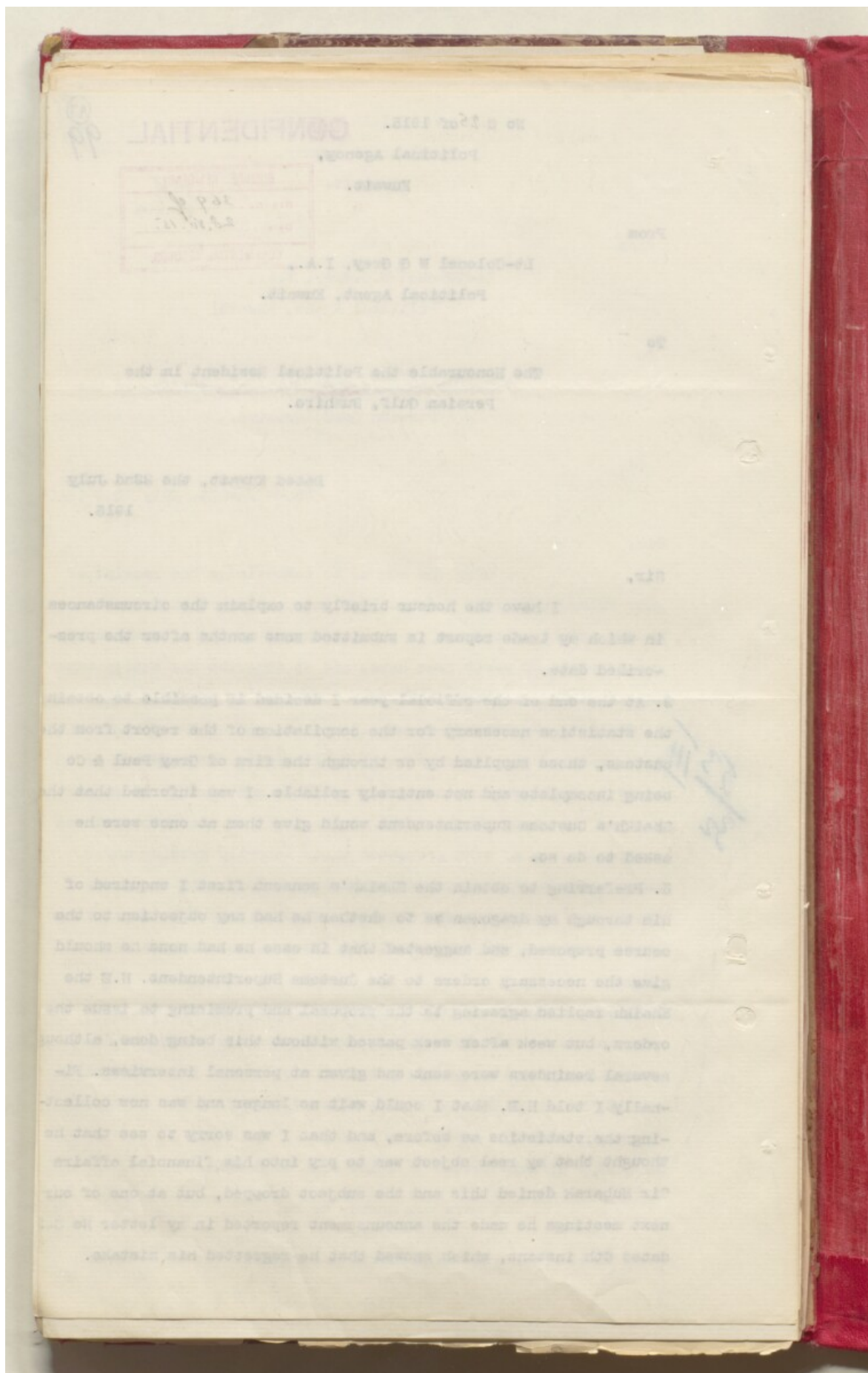
Sir,

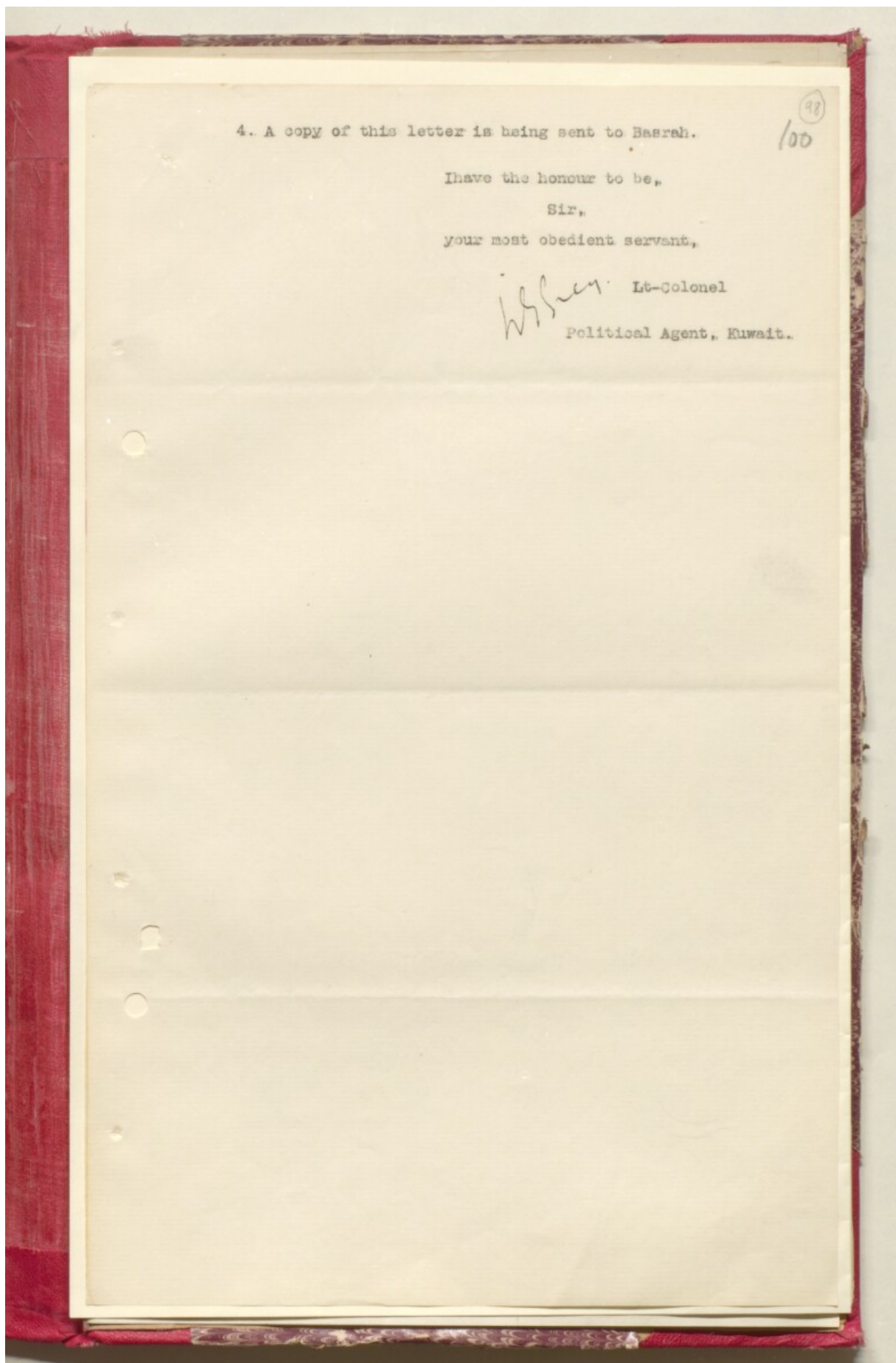
I have the honour briefly to explain the circumstances in which my trade report is submitted some months after the prescribed date.

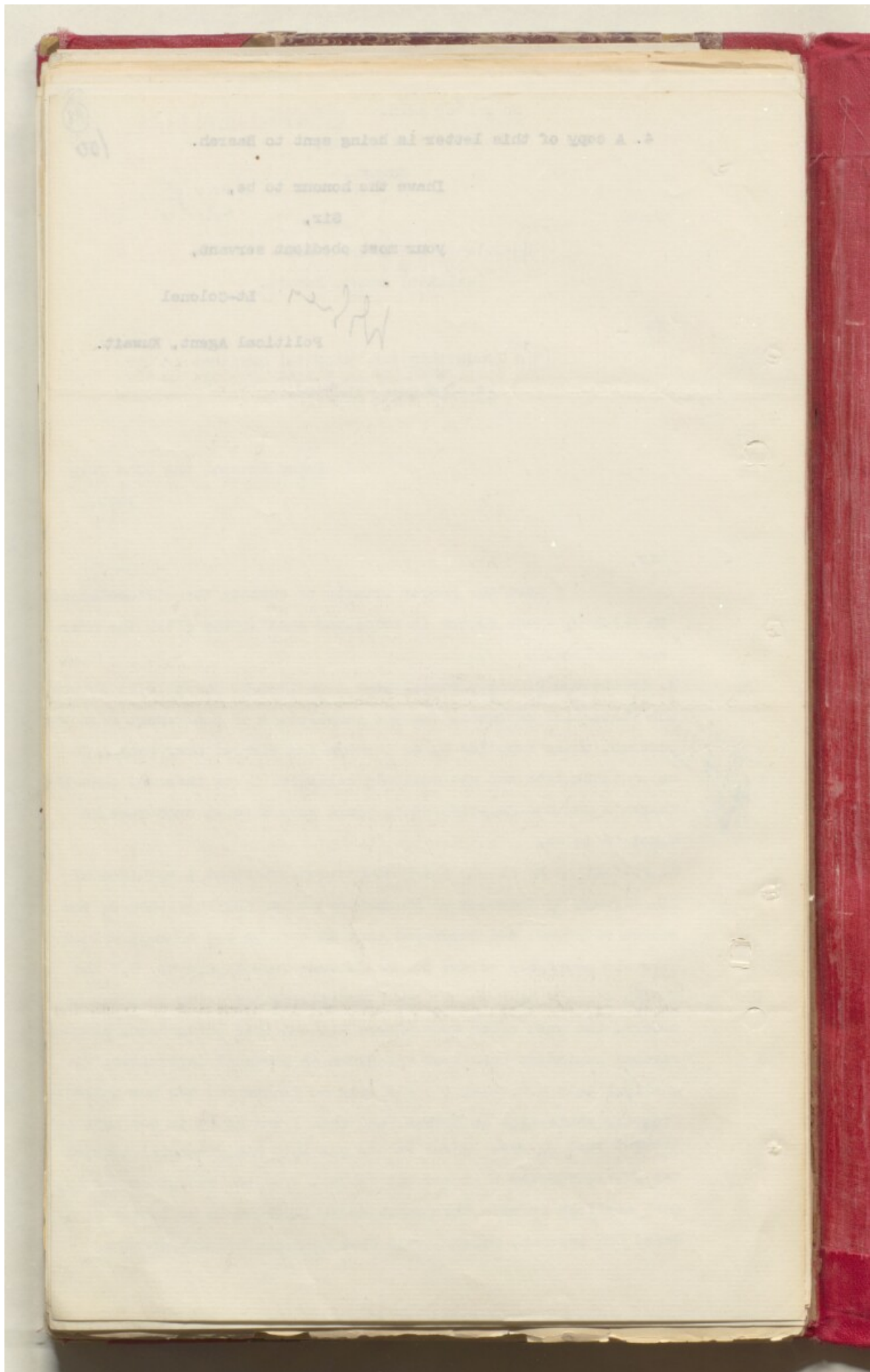
2. At the end of the official year I decided if possible to obtain the statistics necessary for the compilation of the report from the customs, those supplied by or through the firm of Gray Paul & Co being incomplete and not entirely reliable. I was informed that the Sheikh's Customs Superintendent would give them at once were he asked to do so.

3. Preferring to obtain the Sheikh's consent first I enquired of him through my dragoman as to whether he had any objection to the course proposed, and suggested that in case he had none he should give the necessary orders to the Customs Superintendent. H.E. the Sheikh replied agreeing to the proposal and promising to issue the orders, but week after week passed without this being done, although several reminders were sent and given at personal interviews. Finally I told H.E. that I could wait no longer and was now collecting the statistics as before, and that I was sorry to see that he thought that my real object was to pry into his financial affairs. Sir Mubarak denied this and the subject dropped, but at one of our next meetings he made the announcement reported in my letter No 61 dated 6th instant, which showed that he regretted his mistake.

53/32 III









CONFIDENTIAL

No. 627 of 1915.

Political Agency

KUWAIT CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

19 107
BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
RES NO. 418 f.
2. 18. 15.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

From

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To

The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir P. E. Cox,
K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.A.,
Political Resident in the P. Gulf,
Basrah.

Dated Kuwait, the 19th August 1915.

Sir,

Ag/18
I have the honour to report for the information of the Government of India in the Foreign Department that Shaikh Sir Mubarak bin Subah has repaid in Bombay the second and remaining instalment of the loan of 2 lakhs of rupees which was granted to him in January 1914.

2. Two copies of this letter have been sent to Bushire.

I have the honour to be,

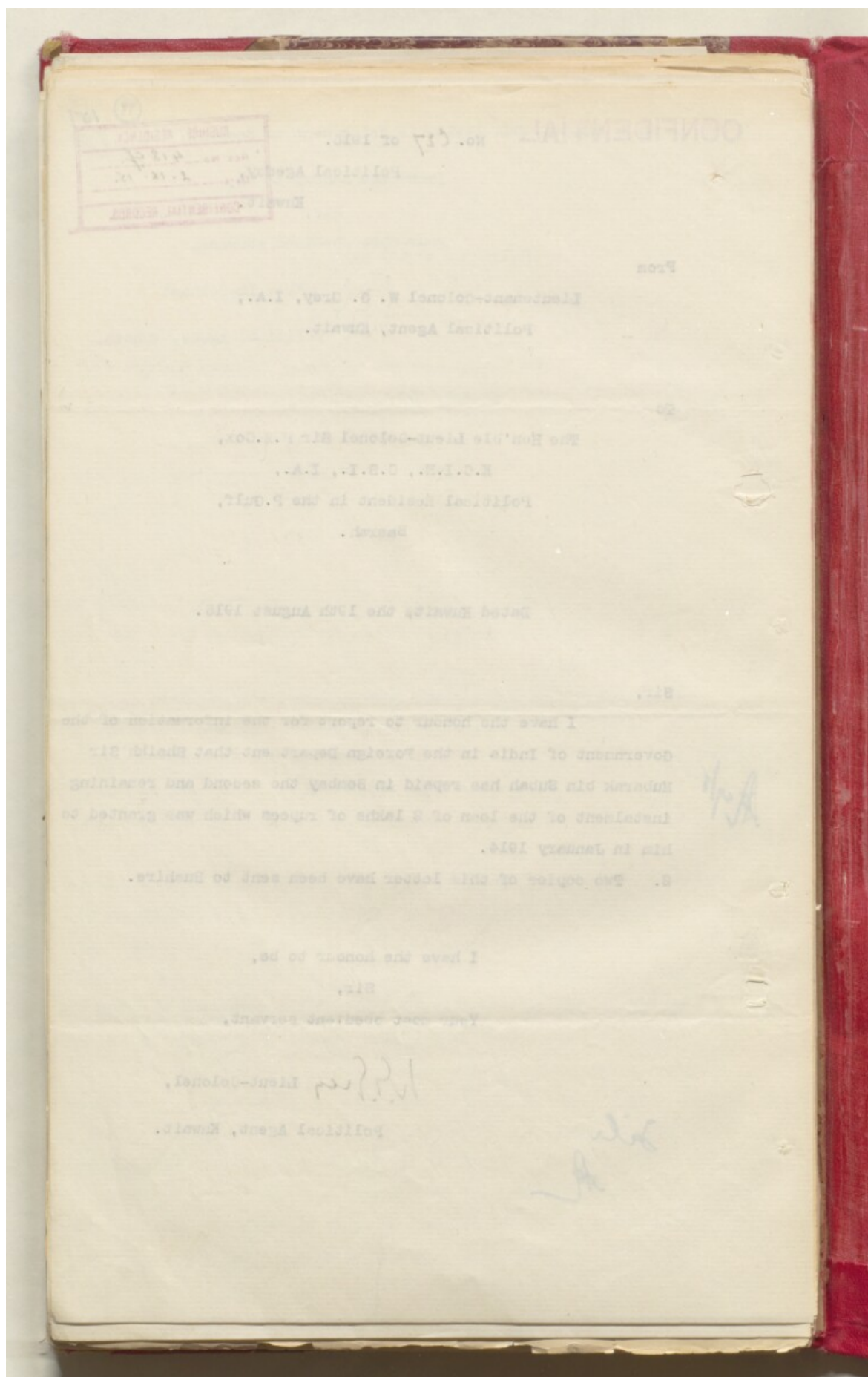
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. G. Grey Lieut-Colonel,

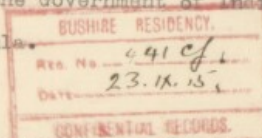
Political Agent, Kuwait.

File
AL





102
Copy of a letter dated 14th September 1915, from the Hon'ble
Lieut-Colonel Sir P.Z.Cox, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Political Resi-
dent in the Persian Gulf, to the Hon'ble Mr. A.H.Grant, C.S.I.
C.I.E., I.C.S. Foreign Secretary to the Government of India
Foreign and Political Department, Simla.



I have the honour to report that Sir Mubarak us Subah,
Shaikh of Kuwait, desires me to submit the following for the
wise consideration of the Government of India.

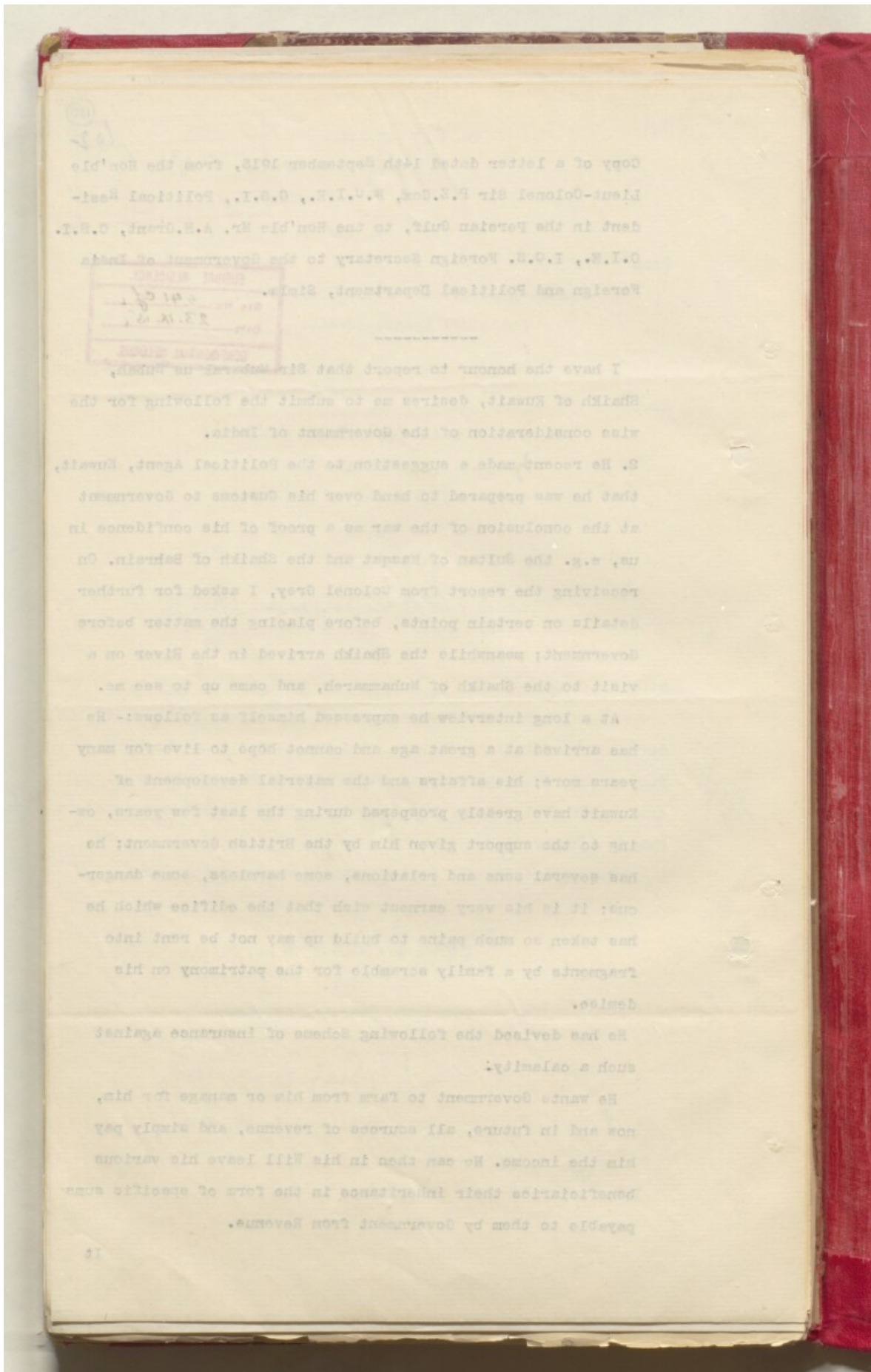
2. He recently made a suggestion to the Political Agent, Kuwait,
that he was prepared to hand over his Customs to Government
at the conclusion of the war as a proof of his confidence in
us, e.g. the Sultan of Masqat and the Shaikh of Bahrain. On
receiving the report from Colonel Grey, I asked for further
details on certain points, before placing the matter before
Government; meanwhile the Shaikh arrived in the River on a
visit to the Shaikh of Muhammareh, and came up to see me.

At a long interview he expressed himself as follows:- He
has arrived at a great age and cannot hope to live for many
years more; his affairs and the material development of
Kuwait have greatly prospered during the last few years, ow-
ing to the support given him by the British Government; he
has several sons and relations, some harmless, some danger-
ous; it is his very earnest wish that the edifice which he
has taken so much pains to build up may not be rent into
fragments by a family scramble for the patrimony on his
demise.

He has devised the following Scheme of insurance against
such a calamity.

He wants Government to farm from him or manage for him,
now and in future, all sources of revenue, and simply pay
him the income. He can then in his Will leave his various
beneficiaries their inheritance in the form of specific sums
payable to them by Government from Revenue.

It





(101)
103

It is an ingenious and wise Scheme worthy of his fine old character, and I very much hope that, in view of his unwavering friendship with us and his strong and progressive rule, the Government of India will vouchsafe a response which will not disappoint him.

It is difficult to go into matters in detail with him until Government have expressed their willingness in principle to find a basis for meeting his wishes, and I therefore beg that the Government of India will be pleased to intimate to me their reply on this point as soon as practicable.

Copy:-

O.S.D. Bushire.

P.A. Kuwait.

P.A. Bahrain.

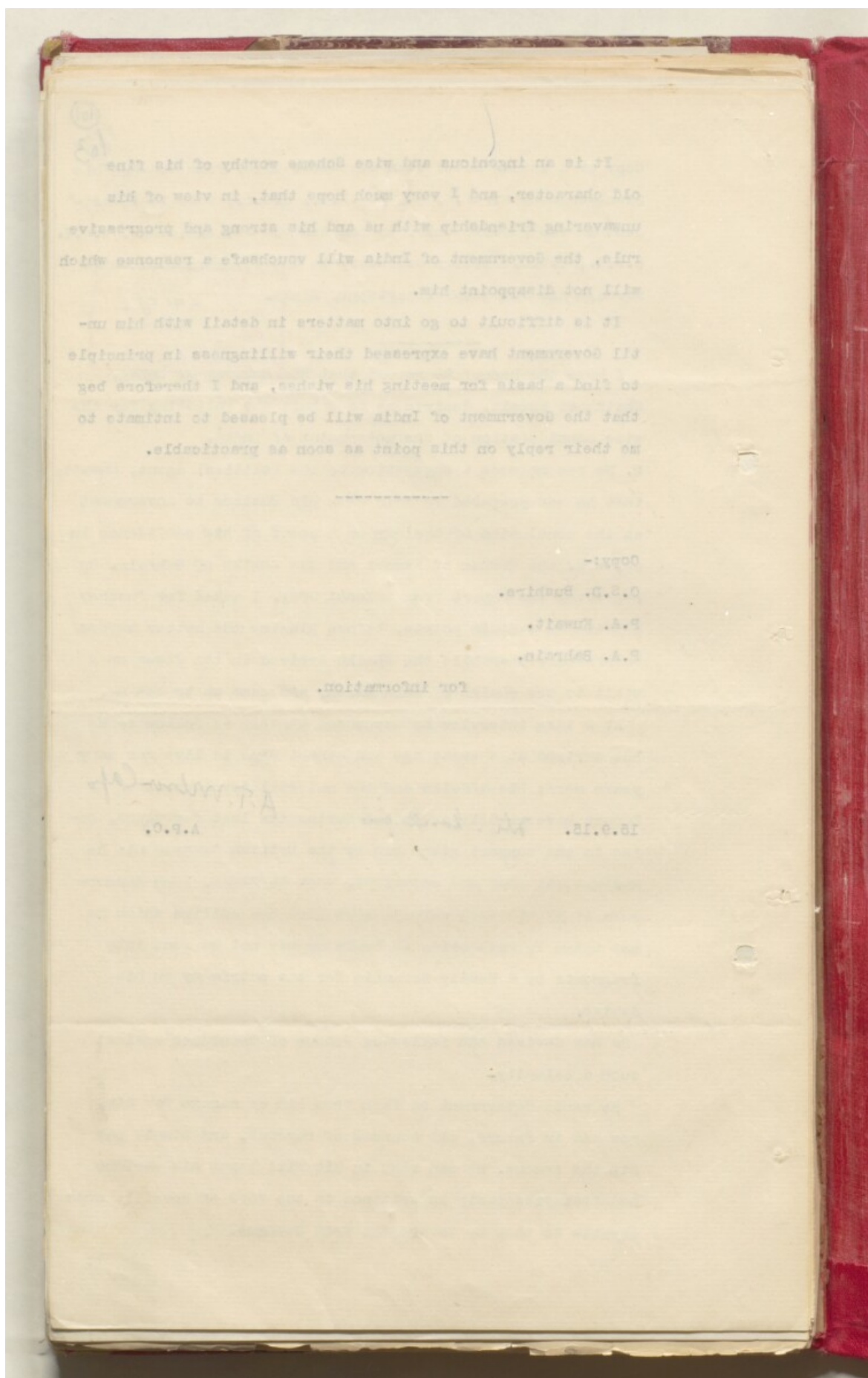
for information.

15.9.15.

He - Kuwait - ...

A.T. Wilson-Caps

A.P.O.





(102) 134

No C 46 of 1915.

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From

Lt-Colonel W.G.Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To

The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, and C.P.O., Basrah.

Dated Kuwait, December 31st, 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram No 3078 B and to report the steps taken in regard to the purchase of camels.

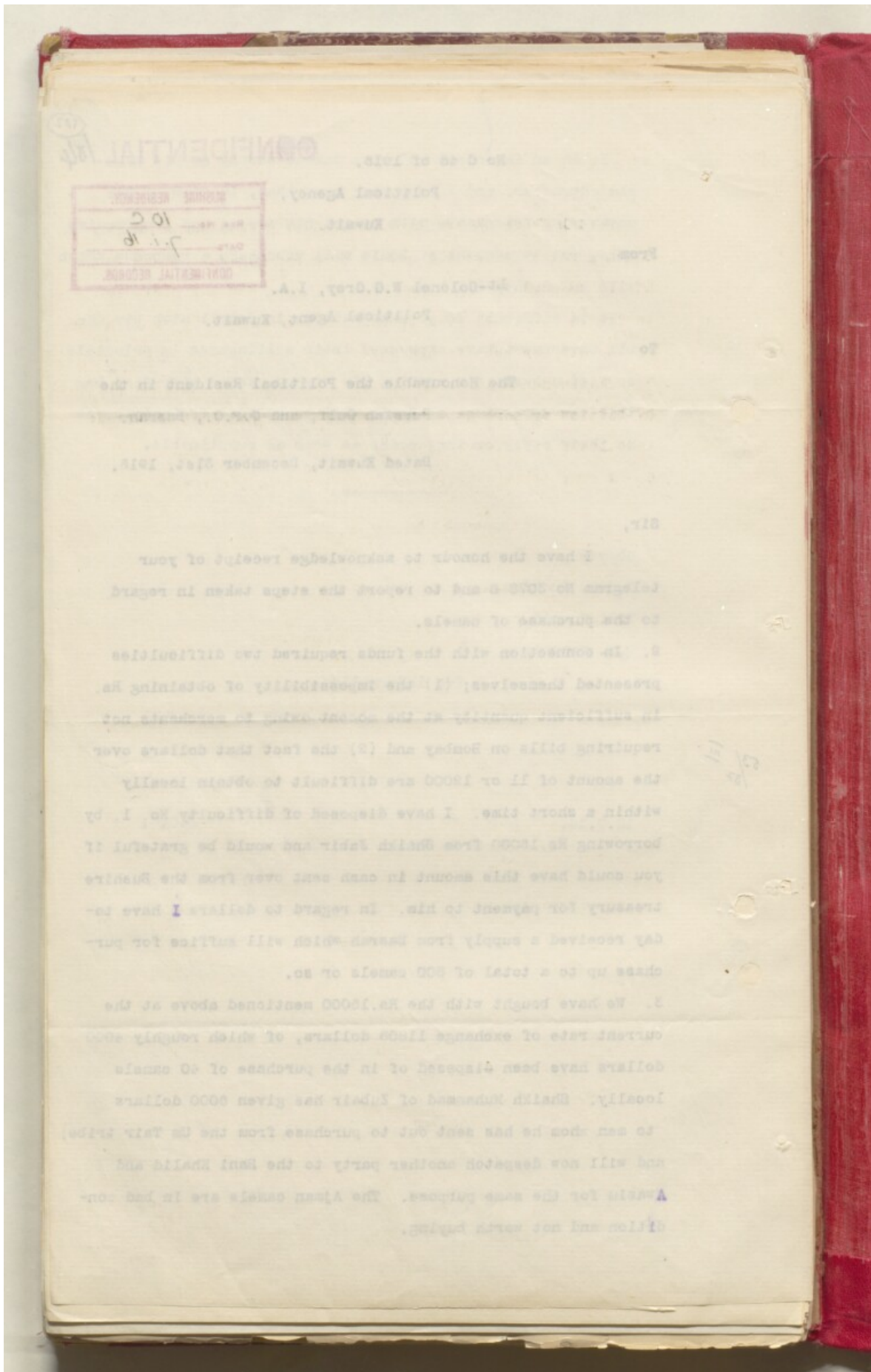
2. In connection with the funds required two difficulties presented themselves; (1) the impossibility of obtaining Rs. in sufficient quantity at the moment owing to merchants not requiring bills on Bombay and (2) the fact that dollars over the amount of 11 or 12000 are difficult to obtain locally within a short time. I have disposed of difficulty No. 1. by borrowing Rs.15000 from Shaikh Jabir and would be grateful if you could have this amount in cash sent over from the Bushire treasury for payment to him. In regard to dollars I have to-day received a supply from Basrah which will suffice for purchase up to a total of 500 camels or so.

3. We have bought with the Rs.15000 mentioned above at the current rate of exchange 11808 dollars, of which roughly 4000 dollars have been disposed of in the purchase of 40 camels locally. Shaikh Muhammad of Zubair has given 6000 dollars to men whom he has sent out to purchase from the Um Tair tribe; and will now despatch another party to the Bani Khalid and Awazim for the same purpose. The Ajman camels are in bad condition and not worth buying.

53/32 III

CONFIDENTIAL

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Res. No.	10 C
DATE	7.1.16
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	





103
105

4. Shaikh Jabir in addition to lending money as stated has given permission for all camels procured by us to graze in his private grazing ground free of charge and has declined to accept the usual royalty on purchases made. He is moreover, giving all the help in his power.
5. Shaikh Muhammad tells me that you wish the camels despatched by fifties or more at a time, and it is hoped that the first instalment will leave Kuwait in about two days time.
6. A copy of this letter has been sent to Bushire.

I have the honour to be,

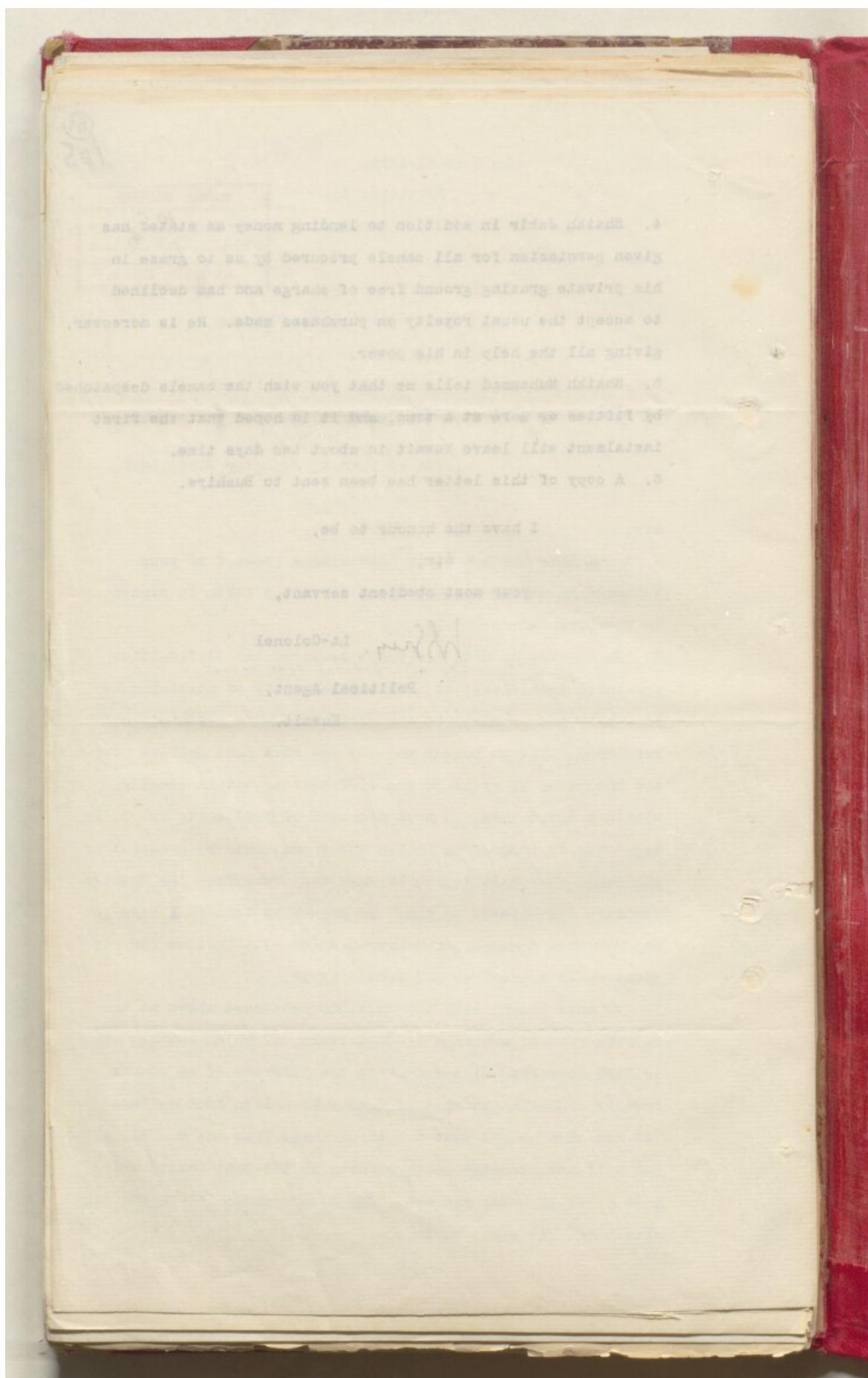
Sir,

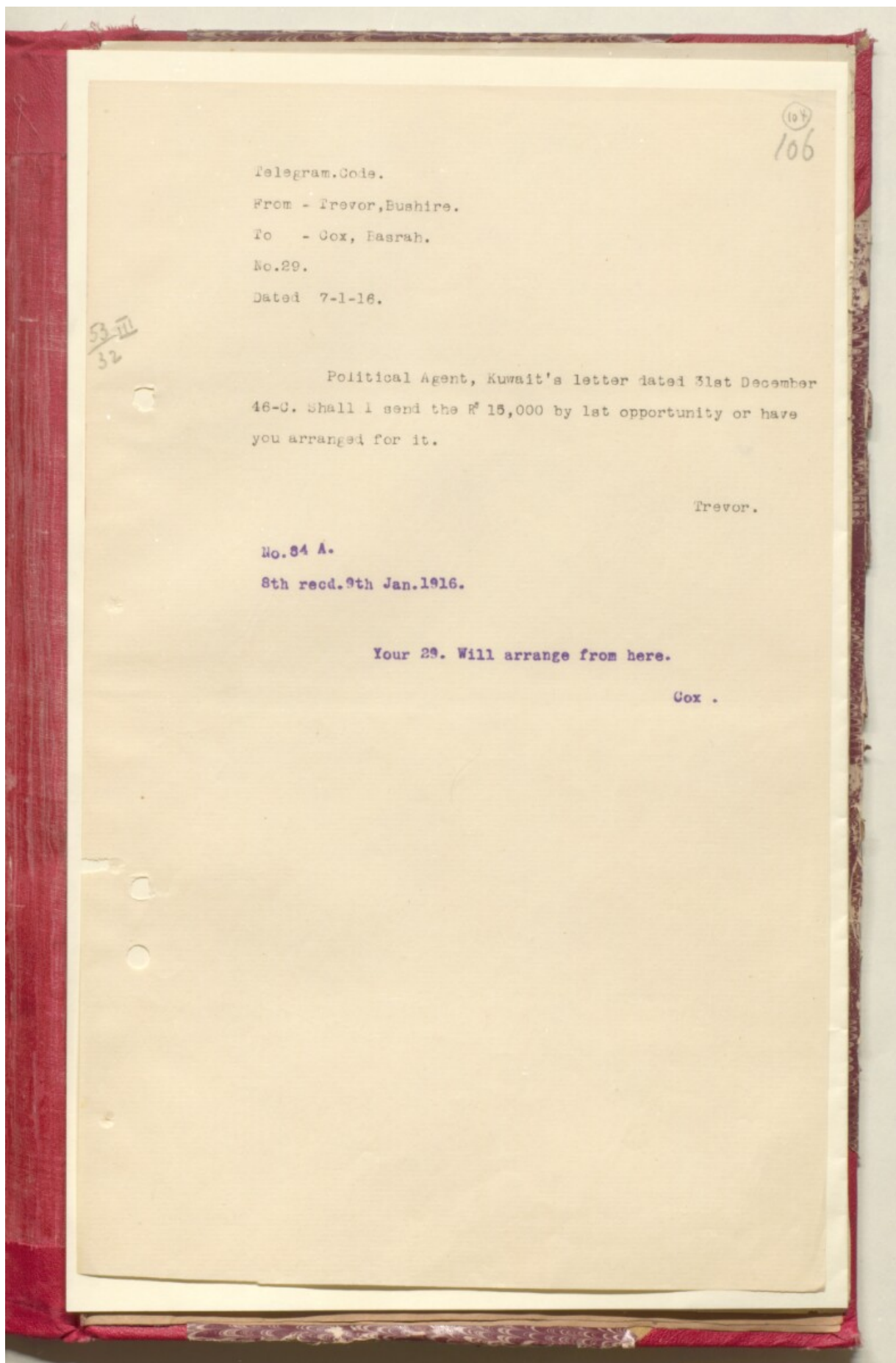
your most obedient servant,

W. Sney Lt-Colonel

Political Agent,

Kuwait.





Telegram.Code.

From - Trevor,Bushire.

To - Cox, Basrah.

No.29.

Dated 7-1-16.

Political Agent, Kuwait's letter dated 31st December
16-0. Shall I send the £ 15,000 by 1st opportunity or have
you arranged for it.

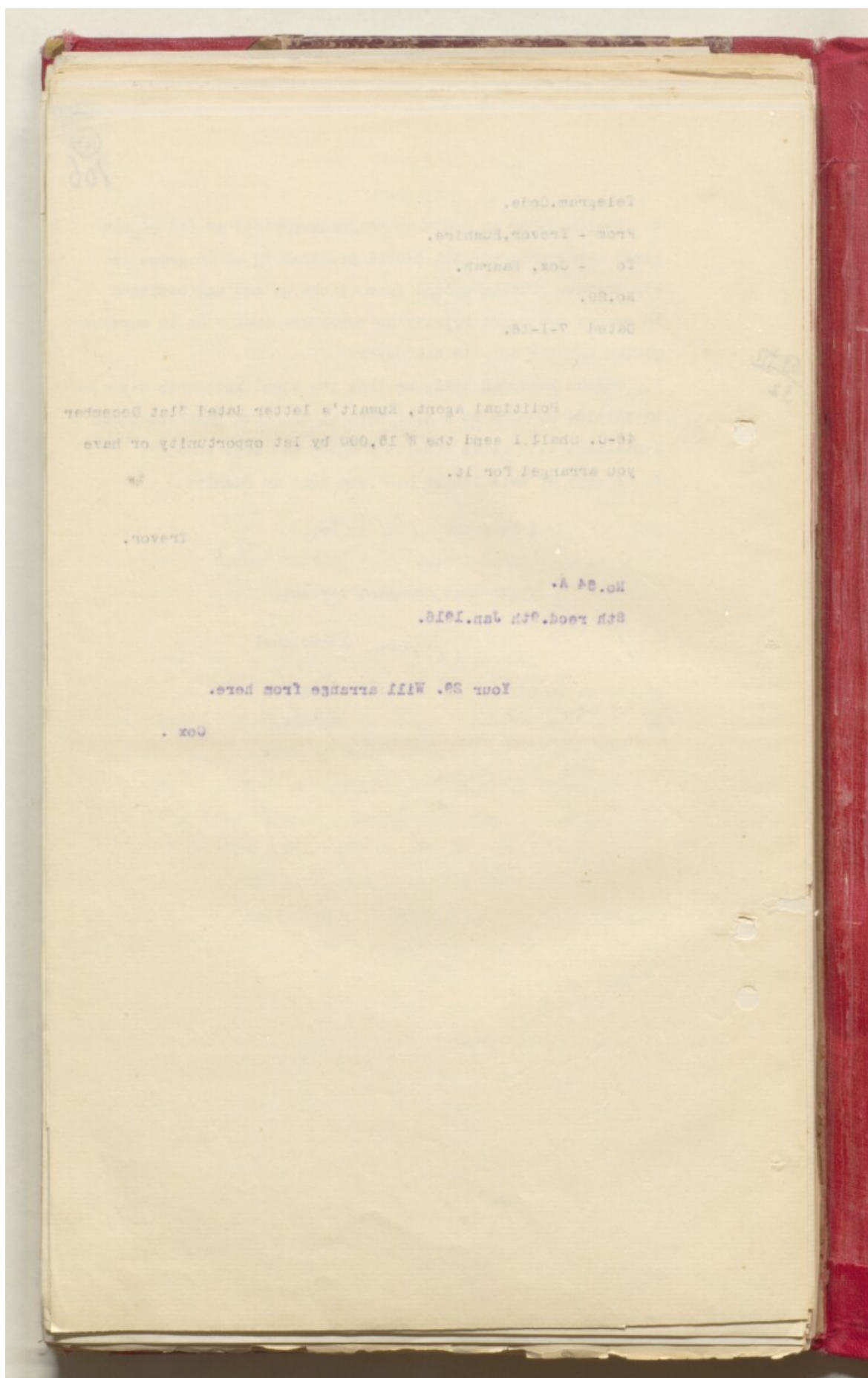
Trevor.

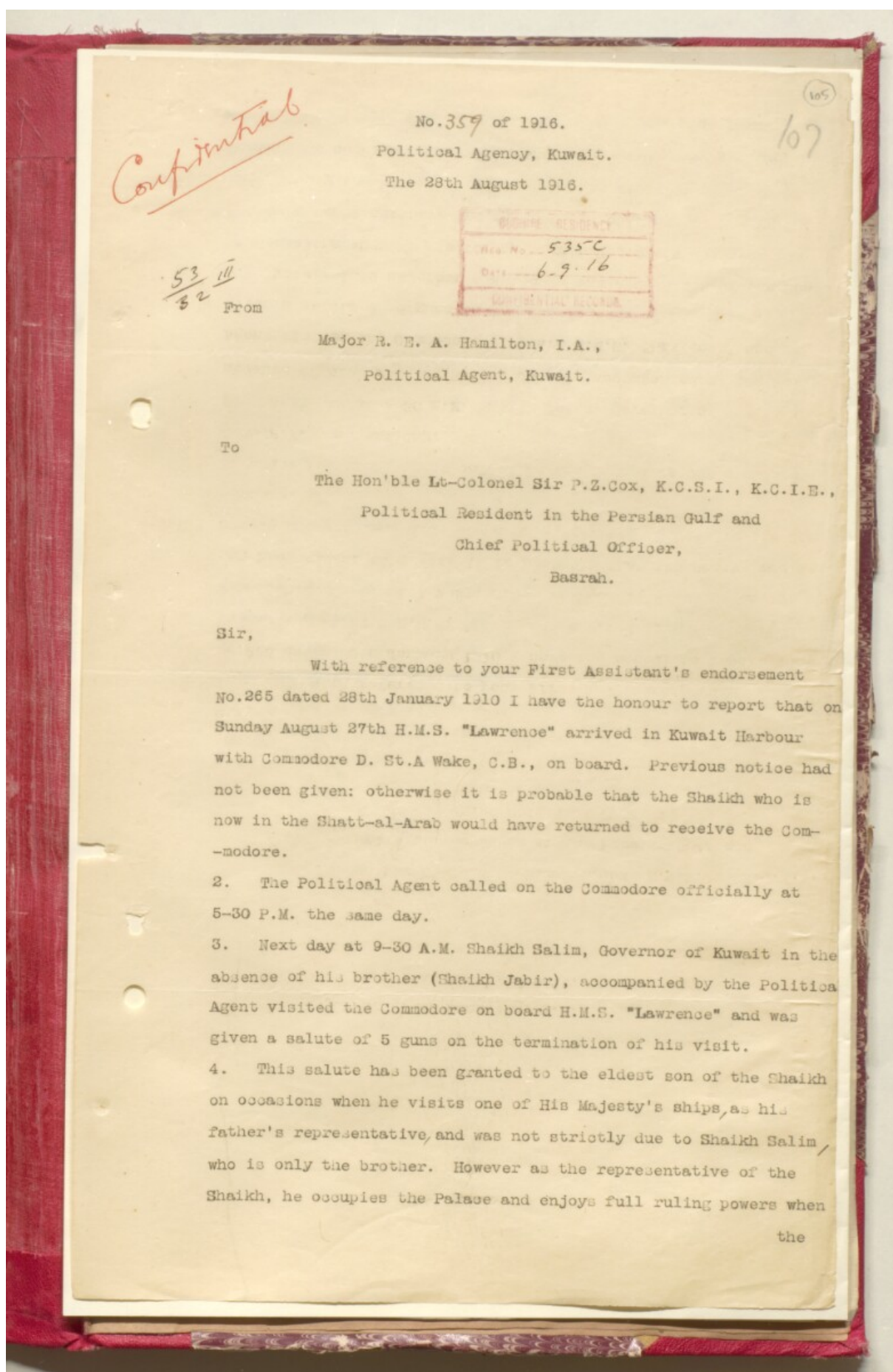
No.84 A.

8th recd.9th Jan.1916.

Your 29. Will arrange from here.

Cox .





Confidential

No. 357 of 1916.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

The 28th August 1916.

53/32 III
From

Political Agency
No. 535C
Date 6-9-16
CONFIDENTIAL RECORD

Major R. E. A. Hamilton, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

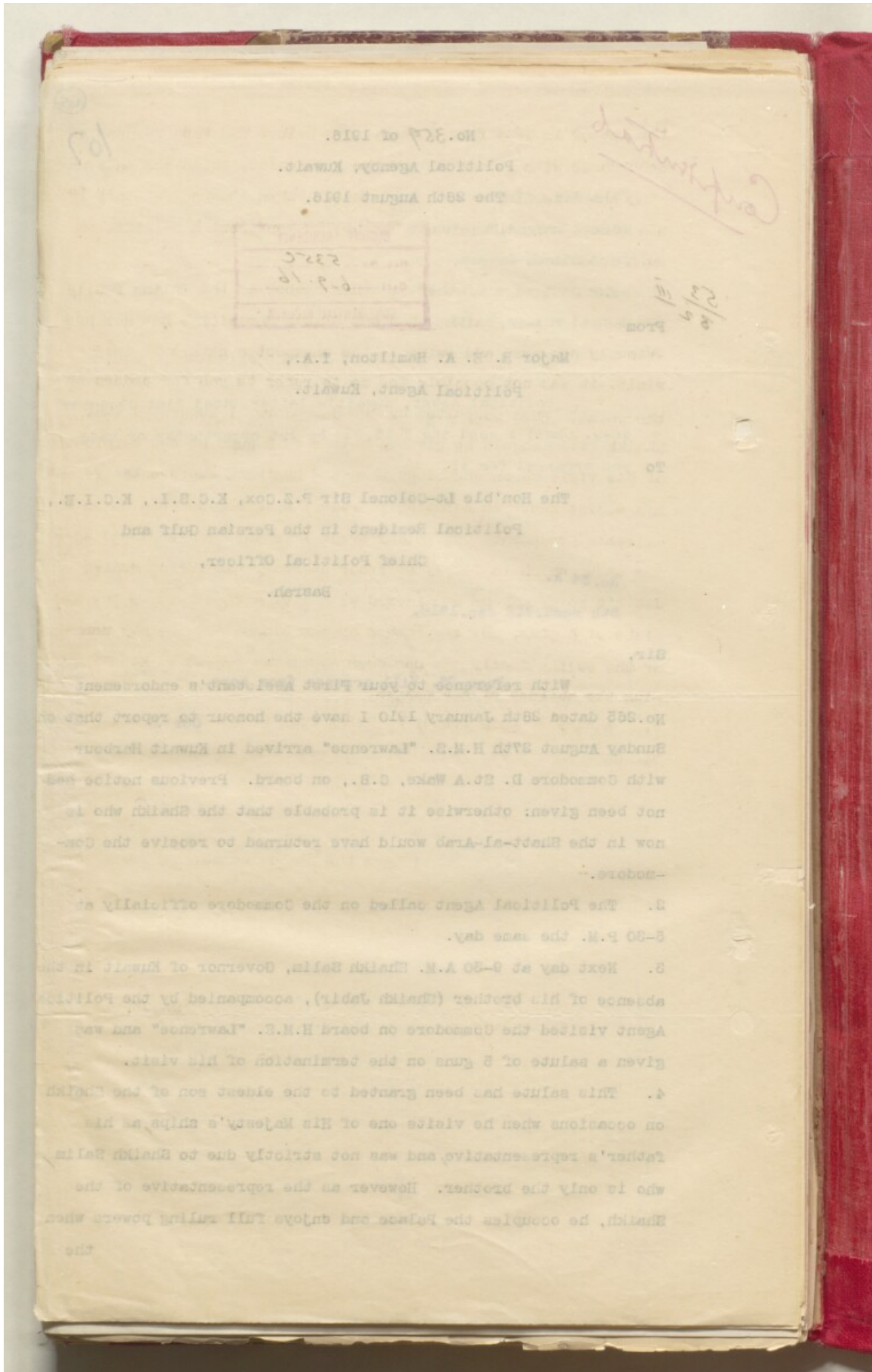
To

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir P.Z.Cox, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and
Chief Political Officer,
Basrah.

Sir,

With reference to your First Assistant's endorsement No. 265 dated 28th January 1910 I have the honour to report that on Sunday August 27th H.M.S. "Lawrence" arrived in Kuwait Harbour with Commodore D. St. A Wake, C.B., on board. Previous notice had not been given: otherwise it is probable that the Shaikh who is now in the Shatt-al-Arab would have returned to receive the Commodore.

2. The Political Agent called on the Commodore officially at 5-30 P.M. the same day.
3. Next day at 9-30 A.M. Shaikh Salim, Governor of Kuwait in the absence of his brother (Shaikh Jabir), accompanied by the Political Agent visited the Commodore on board H.M.S. "Lawrence" and was given a salute of 5 guns on the termination of his visit.
4. This salute has been granted to the eldest son of the Shaikh on occasions when he visits one of His Majesty's ships, as his father's representative, and was not strictly due to Shaikh Salim, who is only the brother. However as the representative of the Shaikh, he occupies the Palace and enjoys full ruling powers when the





106
108
the latter is away from Kuwait. The salute was thus perhaps in accordance with the spirit of the regulation, which was made during the life time of the late Shaikh, when it was customary for his eldest son, the present Shaikh, to represent his father on such occasions.

5. The case of a brother or other member of the ruling family representing the Shaikh, when out of his dominions, has not previously occurred and owing to the unexpected nature of this visit, it was not possible for me to refer to you for orders on the point. When consulted by the Commodore, I suggested that Shaikh Salim should be given a salute of 5 guns at the termination of his visit as on occasions when the Shaikh's representative was his eldest son. In so doing I trust I have not created an undesirable precedent, but in any event I venture to recommend that the case, which is likely to recur at intervals during Shaikh Jabir's reign may be considered with a view to extending the salute of 5 guns, now receivable by the eldest son, to any member of the ruling family who has been appointed regent of Kuwait during the absence of the Shaikh.

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to the Deputy Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

I have the honour to be,

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

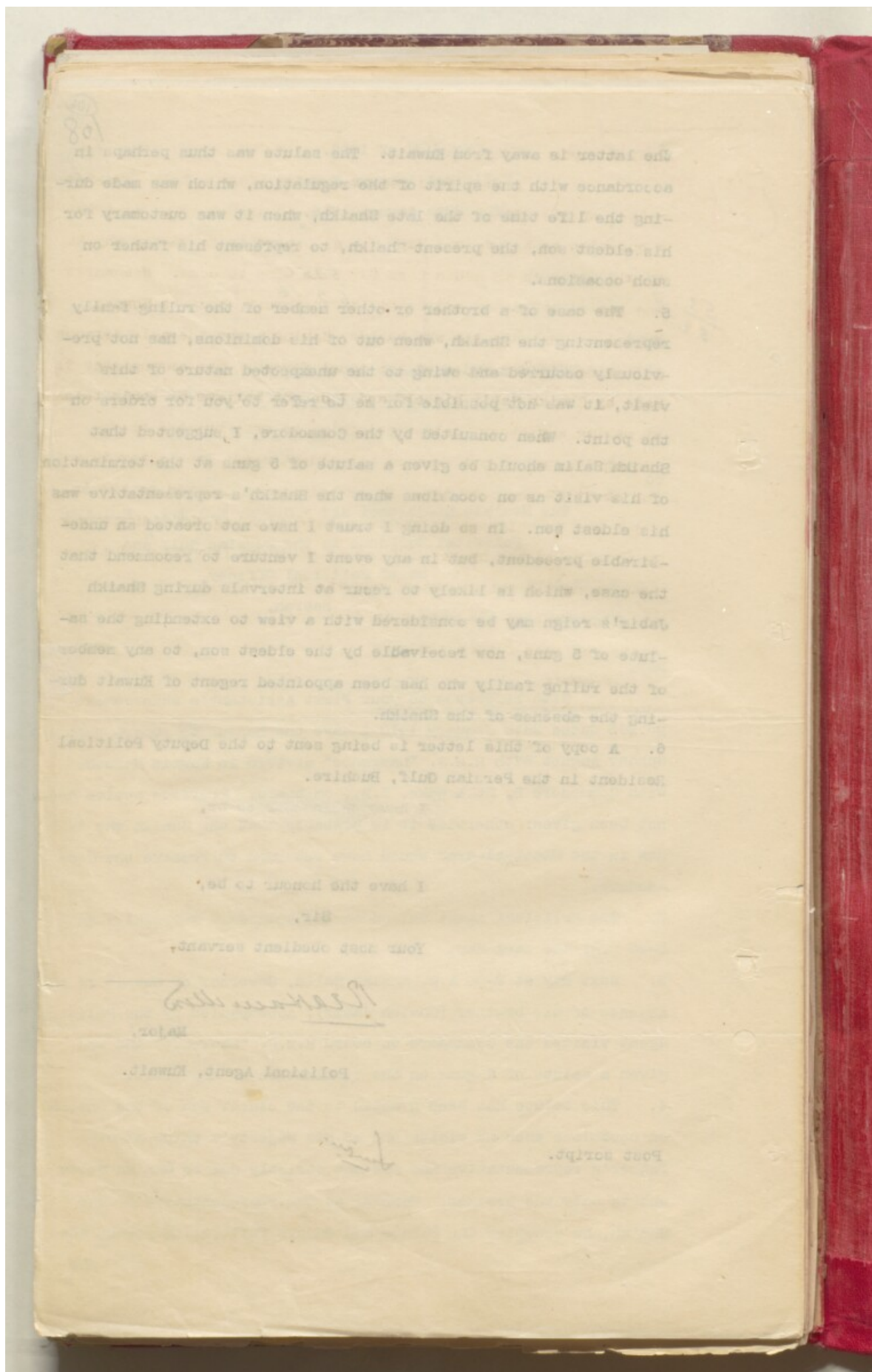
Neakamun

Major,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Post script.

Salim





Post script.

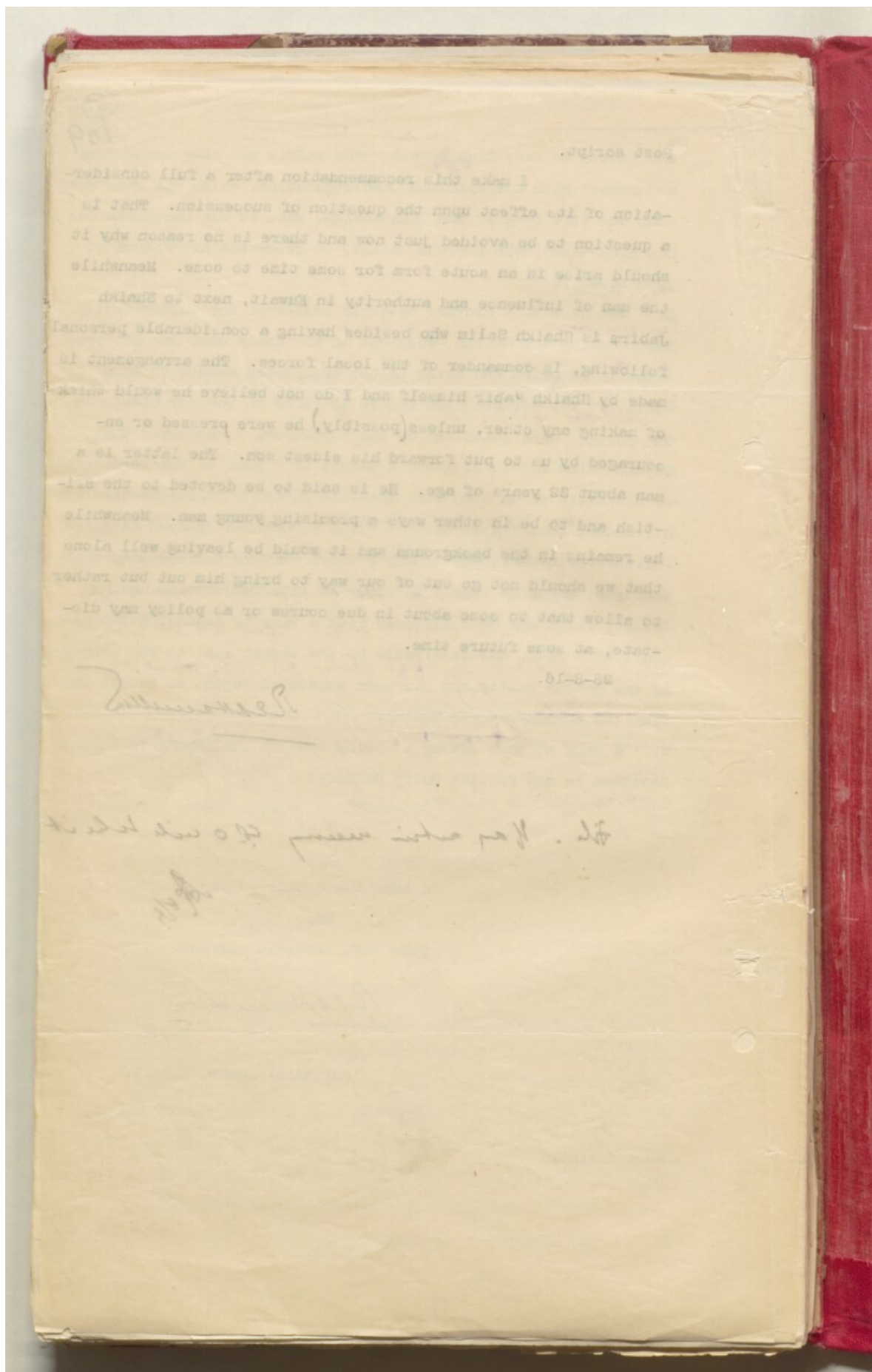
I make this recommendation after a full consideration of its effect upon the question of succession. That is a question to be avoided just now and there is no reason why it should arise in an acute form for some time to come. Meanwhile the man of influence and authority in Kuwait, next to Shaikh Jabir is Shaikh Salim who besides having a considerable personal following, is commander of the local forces. The arrangement is made by Shaikh Jabir himself and I do not believe he would think of making any other, unless (possibly) he were pressed or encouraged by us to put forward his eldest son. The latter is a man about 32 years of age. He is said to be devoted to the British and to be in other ways a promising young man. Meanwhile he remains in the background and it would be leaving well alone that we should not go out of our way to bring him out but rather to allow that to come about in due course or as policy may dictate, at some future time.

28-8-16.

Reamsell

File. If any action necessary 4.0 will be it

4/5





53/32

Telegram R.

From Cox Baghdad.

To D.P.R. Bushire. (Addressed Koweit).

No. 5384.

23

November 1917 .

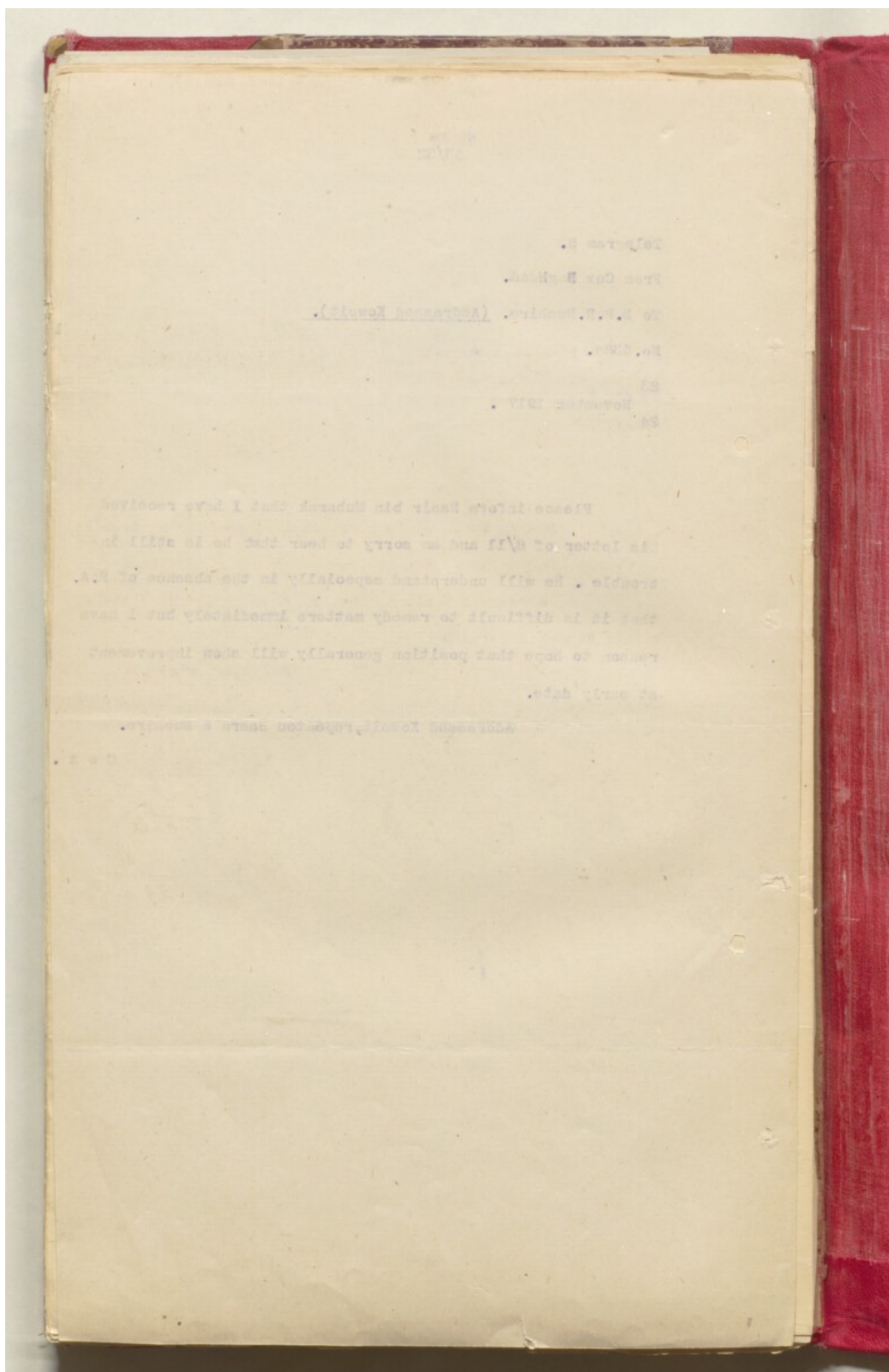
24

Please inform Nasir bin Mubarak that I have received his letter of 8/11 and am sorry to hear that he is still in trouble . He will understand especially in the absence of P.A. that it is difficult to remedy matters immediately but I have reason to hope that position generally will show improvement at early date.

Addressed Koweit, repeated Basra & Bushire.

C o x .

File
M
24. 11. 17.





53/32 III.

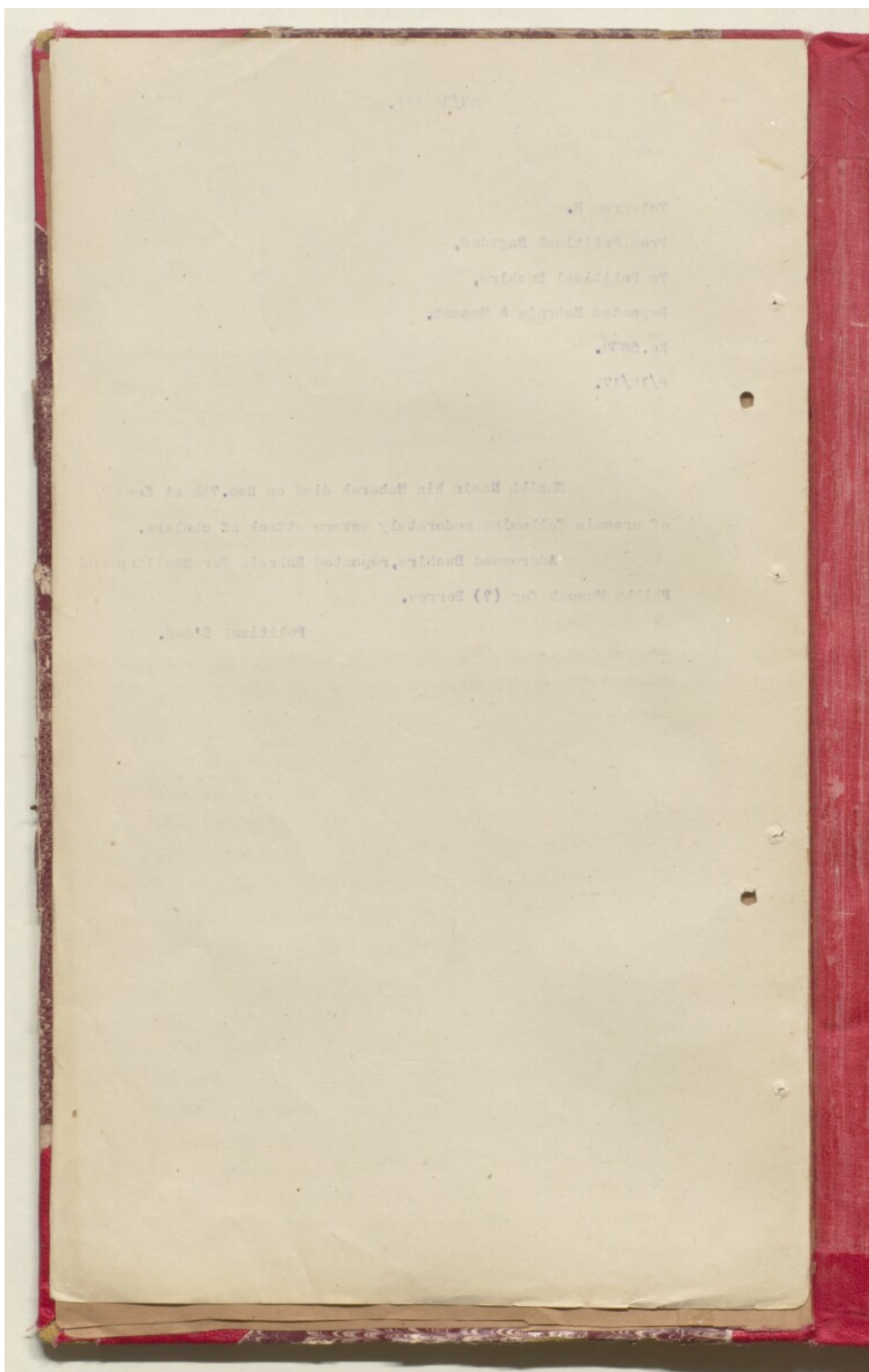
109

III

Telegram R.
From Political Baghdad,
To Political Bushire,
Repeated Bahrain & Muscat.
No. 5838.
8/12/17.

Shaikh Nasir bin Mubarak died on Dec. 7th at Kuwait
of uraemia following moderately severe attack of cholera.
Addressed Bushire, repeated Bahrain for Hamilton and
Philby Muscat for (?) Borrow.

Political B'dad.





CONFIDENTIAL.

53/32
No. 131 C
Political Agency, Kuwait.
19th September 1918.

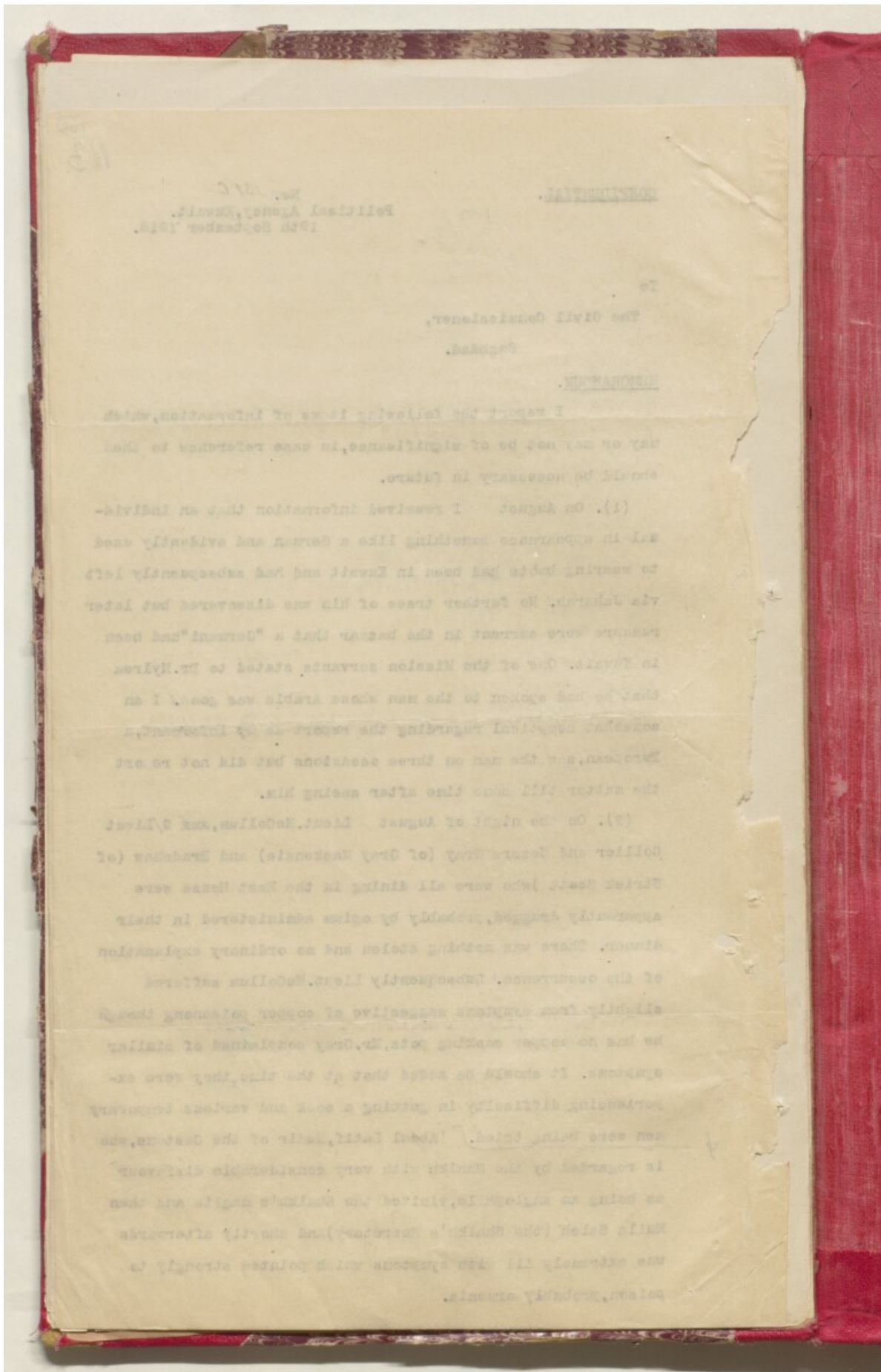
To
The Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad.

MEMORANDUM.

I report the following items of information, which may or may not be of significance, in case reference to them should be necessary in future.

(1). On August I received information that an individual in appearance something like a German and evidently used to wearing boots had been in Kuwait and had subsequently left via Jaharah. No further trace of him was discovered but later rumours were current in the bazaar that a "Germani" had been in Kuwait. One of the Mission servants stated to Dr. Mylrea that he had spoken to the man whose Arabic was good. I am somewhat sceptical regarding the report as my informant, a European, saw the man on three occasions but did not report the matter till some time after seeing him.

(2). On the night of August Lieut. McCollum, ~~xxx~~ 2/Lieut Collier and Messrs Gray (of Gray Mackenzie) and Bradshaw (of Strick Scott) who were all dining in the Rest House were apparently drugged, probably by opium administered in their dinner. There was nothing stolen and no ordinary explanation of the occurrence. Subsequently Lieut. McCollum suffered slightly from symptoms suggestive of copper poisoning though he has no copper cooking pots, Mr. Gray complained of similar symptoms. It should be added that at the time they were experiencing difficulty in getting a cook and various temporary men were being tried. ^f 'Abdul Latif, Madir of the Customs, who is regarded by the Shaikh with very considerable disfavour as being an anglophile, visited the Shaikh's maglis and then Mulla Saleh (the Shaikh's Secretary) and shortly afterwards was extremely ill with symptoms which pointed strongly to poison, probably arsenic.





(III)
114

A few days later a well-known merchant died of an attack with similar symptoms but the matter was hushed up. This merchant had nothing to do with us.

(3). On the afternoon of the deportation of Yusuf al Dawairi it seemed doubtful if the man would be produced at the hour named by us and Lieut. McCollum telephoned to the Mudir of the Customs who went to see the Shaikh about the matter. As no reply had come shortly before the ship was to sail (I had detained her till the afternoon) Lieut. McCollum went round on my behalf to enquire whether Yusuf al Dawairi would be handed over. He waited with the Shaikh's son on the veranda and the Shaikh sent out a message that he was busy in his maktub and that the man would be sent. He actually had with him Mulla Saleh and a relation of Yusuf al Dawairi and they were no doubt discussing the possibility of a final refusal, as even after receiving Sir Percy Cox' message the Shaikh was much against acceding to our request. I consider that in not seeing Lieut. McCollum the Shaikh was guilty of grave discourtesy, but I decided to take no steps in the matter as the Shaikh was much upset at the time and I think that any further unpalatable action on our part might very possibly have driven him into open defiance.

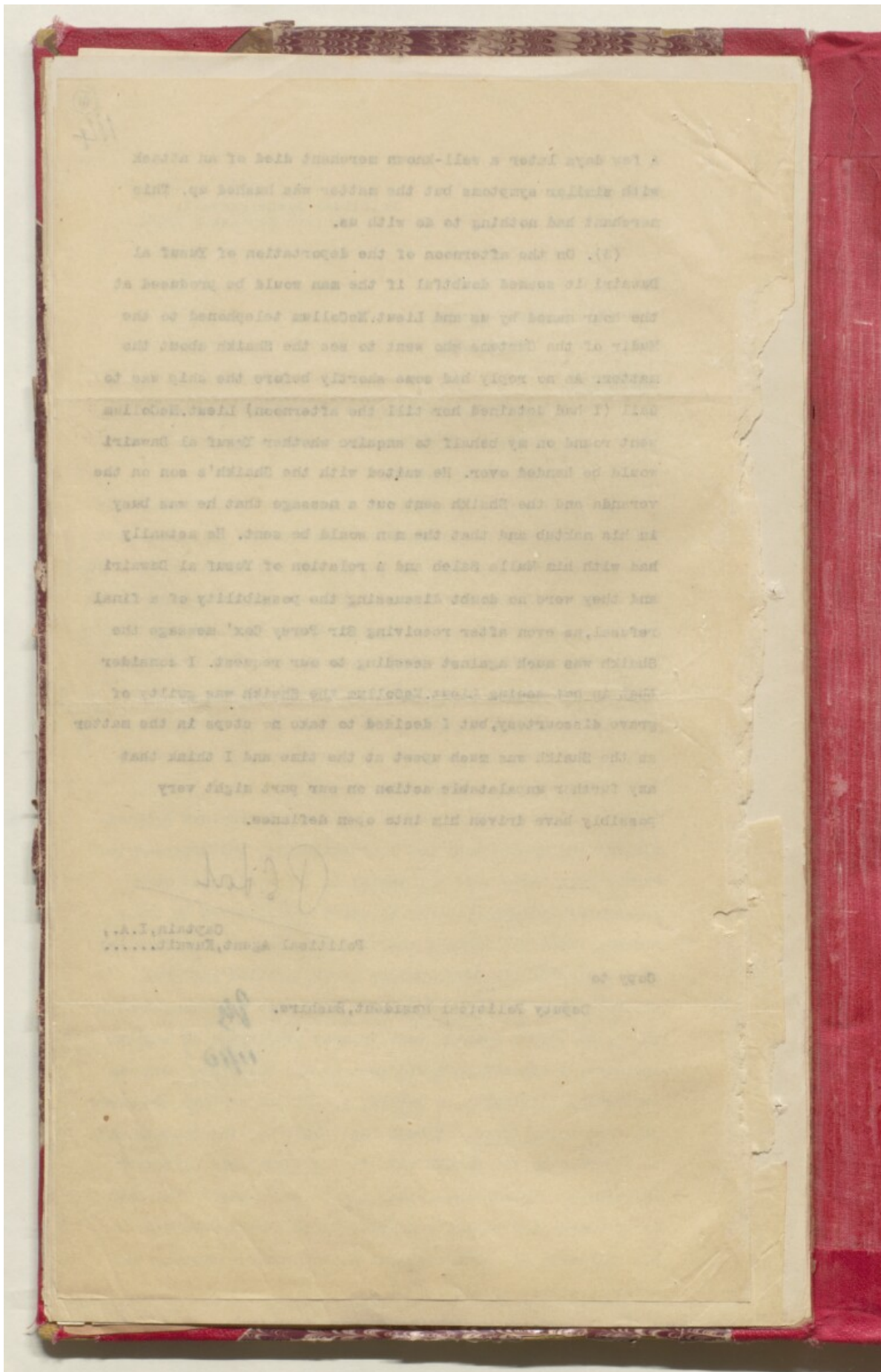
P. S. Cox

Captain, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.....

Copy to

Deputy Political Resident, Bushire.

9/11
11/10





1482

Political Agency, Kuwait.

Dated October 4th, 1913.

To

H.St.J. Philby, Esquire., C.I.B., I.C.S.

Memorandum.

Sheikh Salia complained to me a few days ago that, without any reference to him, one of Bin Sa'ud's agents arrested 4 or 5 Muteiris in Koweit and had them then confined in Nefisi's house. I sent for Nefisi who acknowledged the facts and said the arrests were made by 'Abd-er Rahman ibn Sa'id. I explained the situation to him and he agreed with me that it was wrong to have done so. It appears 'Abd-er Rahman was given orders by Bin Sa'ud to produce before me the 45 camels mentioned in your M 137 and if Braih did not produce them when ordered to he was to use such means as was in his power. Only 32 were produced - vide my No.1433 - and he arrested, in Koweit, 5 of their tribesmen as a means of insisting on the production of the remaining animals. Bin Sa'ud did not of course contemplate this and neither Nefisi nor 'Abd-er Rahman seemed to realise the fact that they were doing wrong.

I advised Nefisi to take 'Abd-er Rahman with him and apologise to Sheikh Salia and explain that it was due to a mistake.

The apology was made but I can see that Sheikh Salia still feels a bit sore about it. I think it would be well if you were to ask bin Sa'ud to write a letter of apology to Salia.



Soubballum

Lieutenant.,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

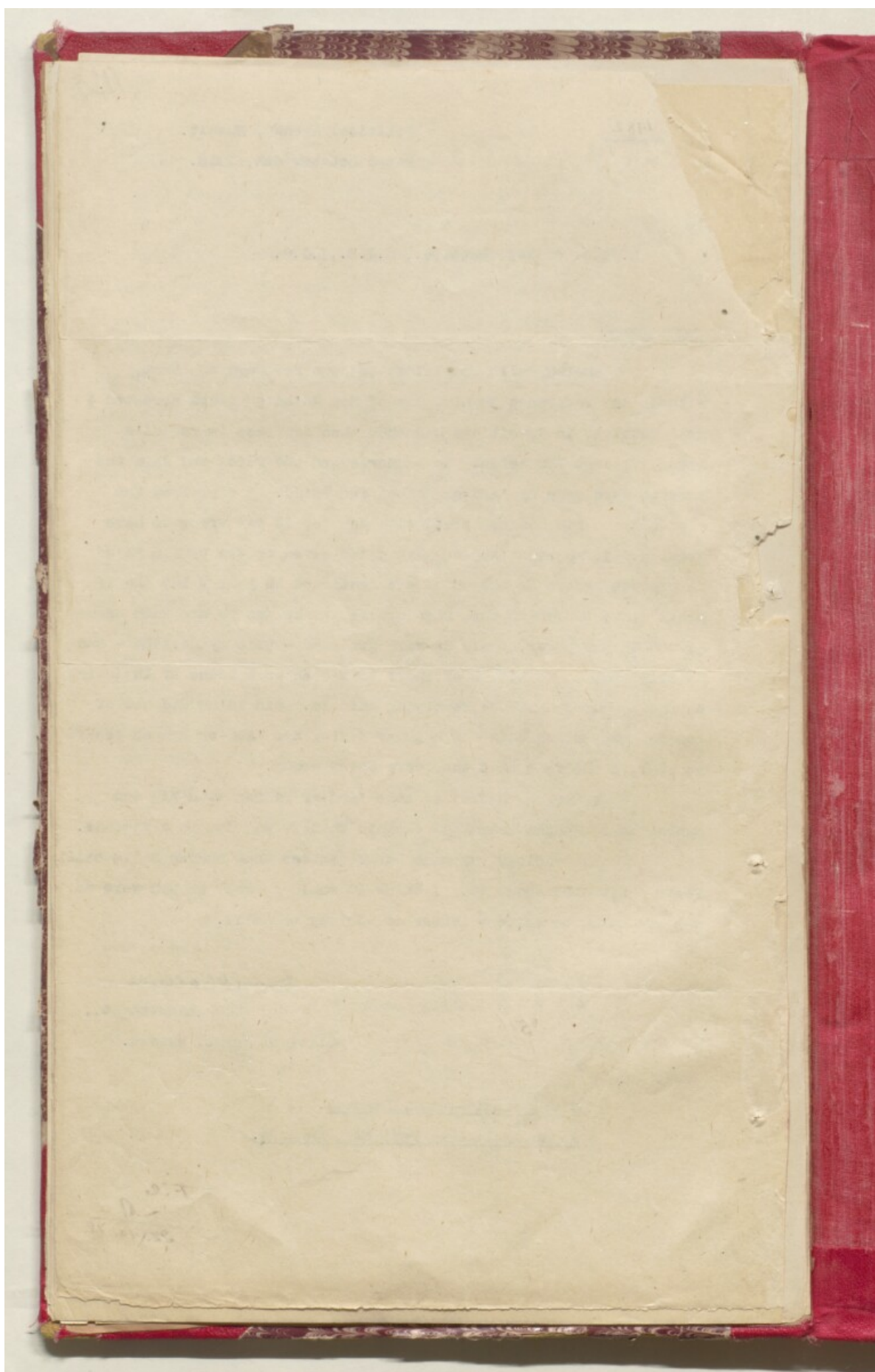
Copy to:-

Civil Commissioner, Baghdad.

Deputy Political Resident, Bushira.

A.L.

File
11
22. 10. 13.





Telegram P.

From.- Secretary of State for India, London.

To.- Foreign, Simla, repeated Political Baghdad.

No. of words. 36.

Dated 3rd and received 4th of October, 1918.

Proposed gift of five lakhs of rupees to Shaikh of Koweit sanctioned. Treasury agree to pay half on condition that opportunity taken to press for the repayment of previous loan of twelve thousand five hundred pounds sterling. Political Agent should use his discretion in raising this point.

No. 21442
730.

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER?

Baghdad, the 7th October, 1918.

Political Agent, Koweit.

I forward for your information and necessary action a telegram from Secretary of State for India authorizing the gift to the Shaikh of Koweit of 5 lakhs of rupees in recognition of the pecuniary loss sustained by him in connection with the Blockade of Enemy Territory.

2. Unless you see any grave objection, in which case please communicate further, you should give the Shaikh to understand that you assume that he will be agreeable to your deducting therefrom and refunding to Government the sum of Rs. 1,87,500 lent to him free of interest by Government in January 1916.

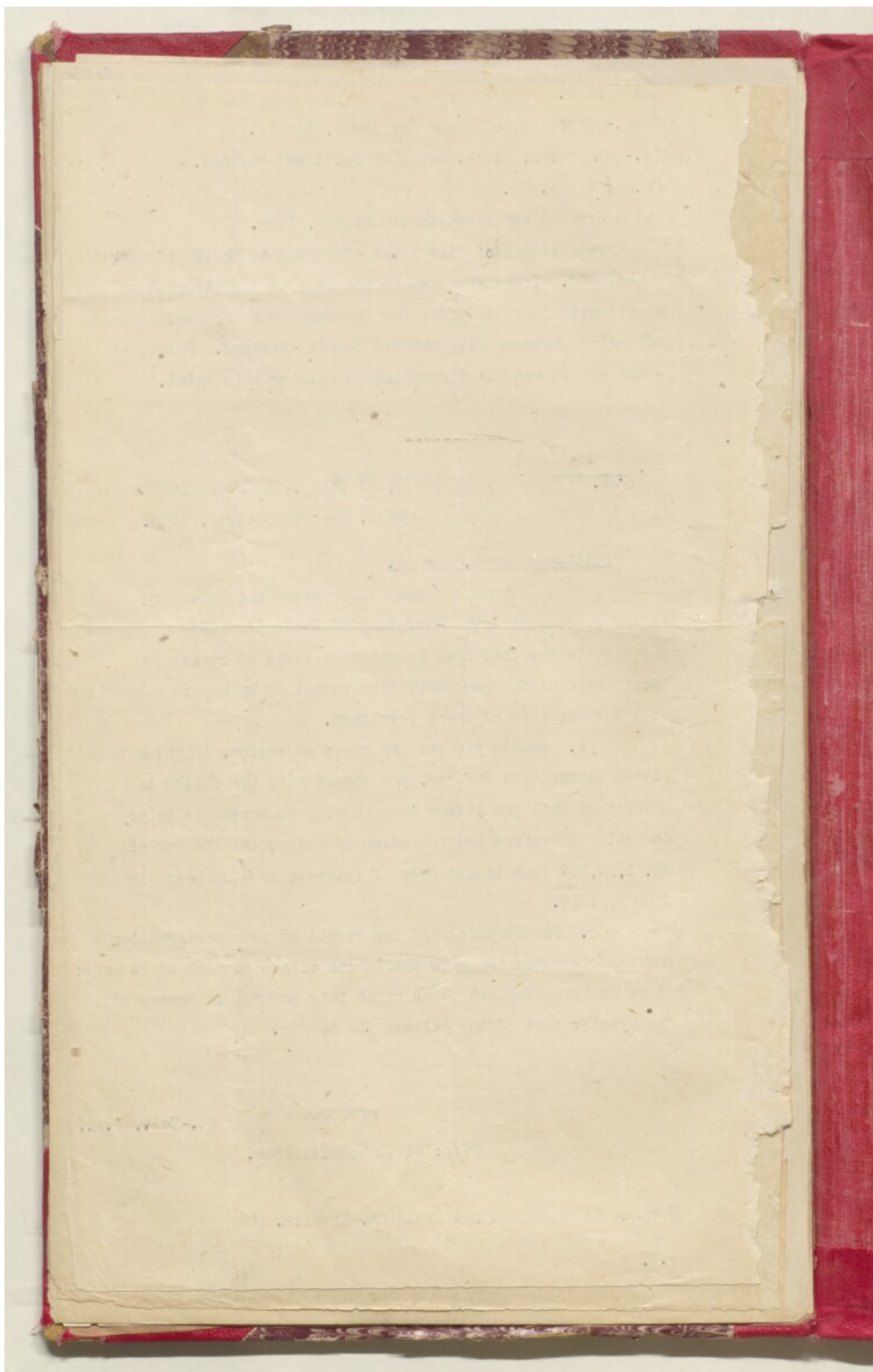
3. Please telegraph the result of your conversation and ascertain how and when the Shaikh wishes payment to be made: it would be convenient if he could take payment in Bombay of the greater part of the balance due to him.

mmh
Lt.-Col., I.A.,

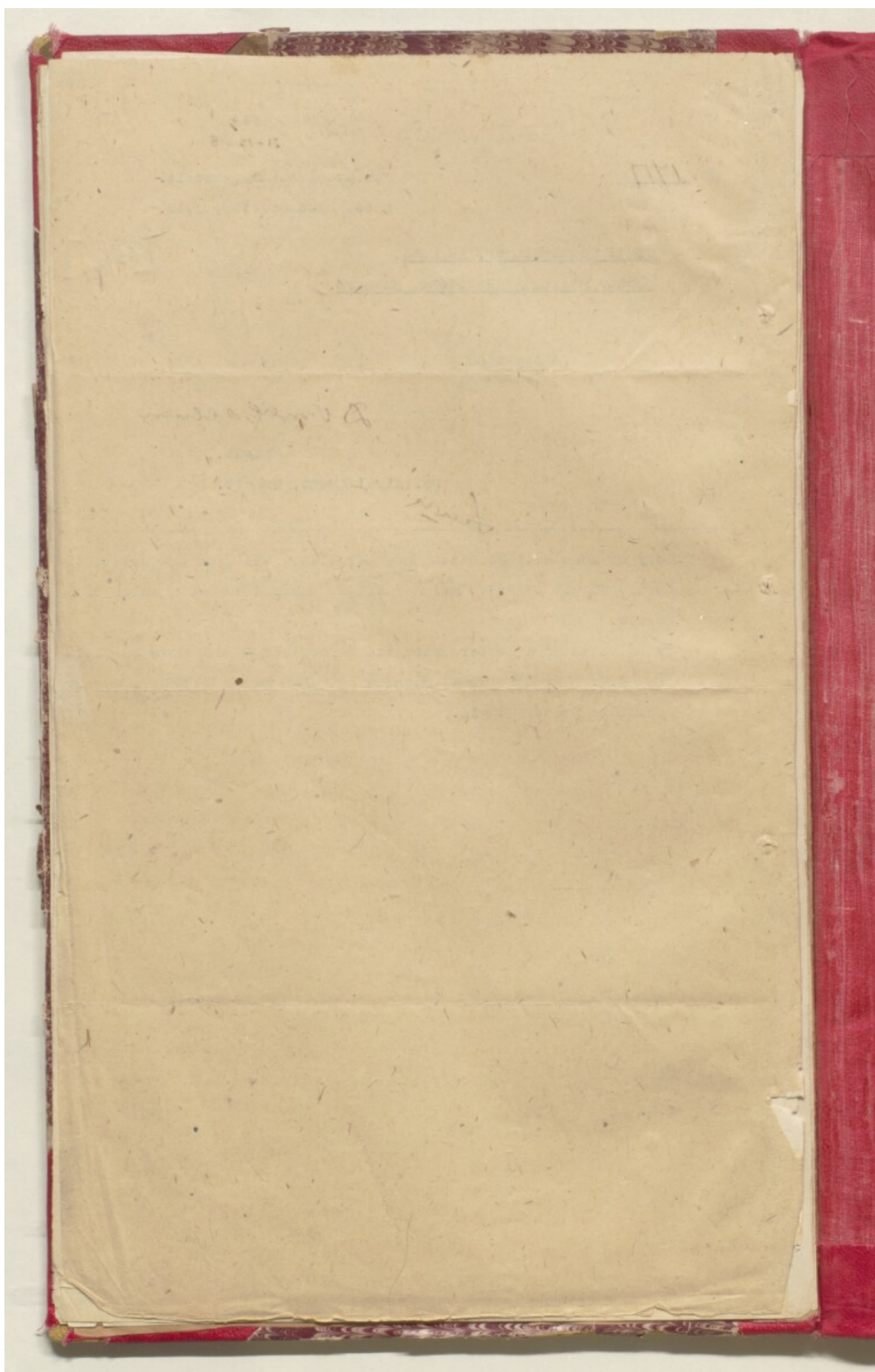
Offg: Civil Commissioner.

Copy to Deputy Political Resident, Bushire. ✓

A.R. ✓



A. L.





No. 1833.
Political Agency, Kuwait.

11th November, 1913.

To

H.E. Sheikh Salim Al Mubarak es Sabah
Ruler of Kuwait.

Memorandum.

A.C. I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that in consideration of the pecuniary loss sustained by you in connection with the blockade which it had been necessary to establish here, the High Government has decided to make Your Excellency a gift of three lacs of rupees. Government has further decided to forego the loan made in respect of the Kuwait Water Plant.

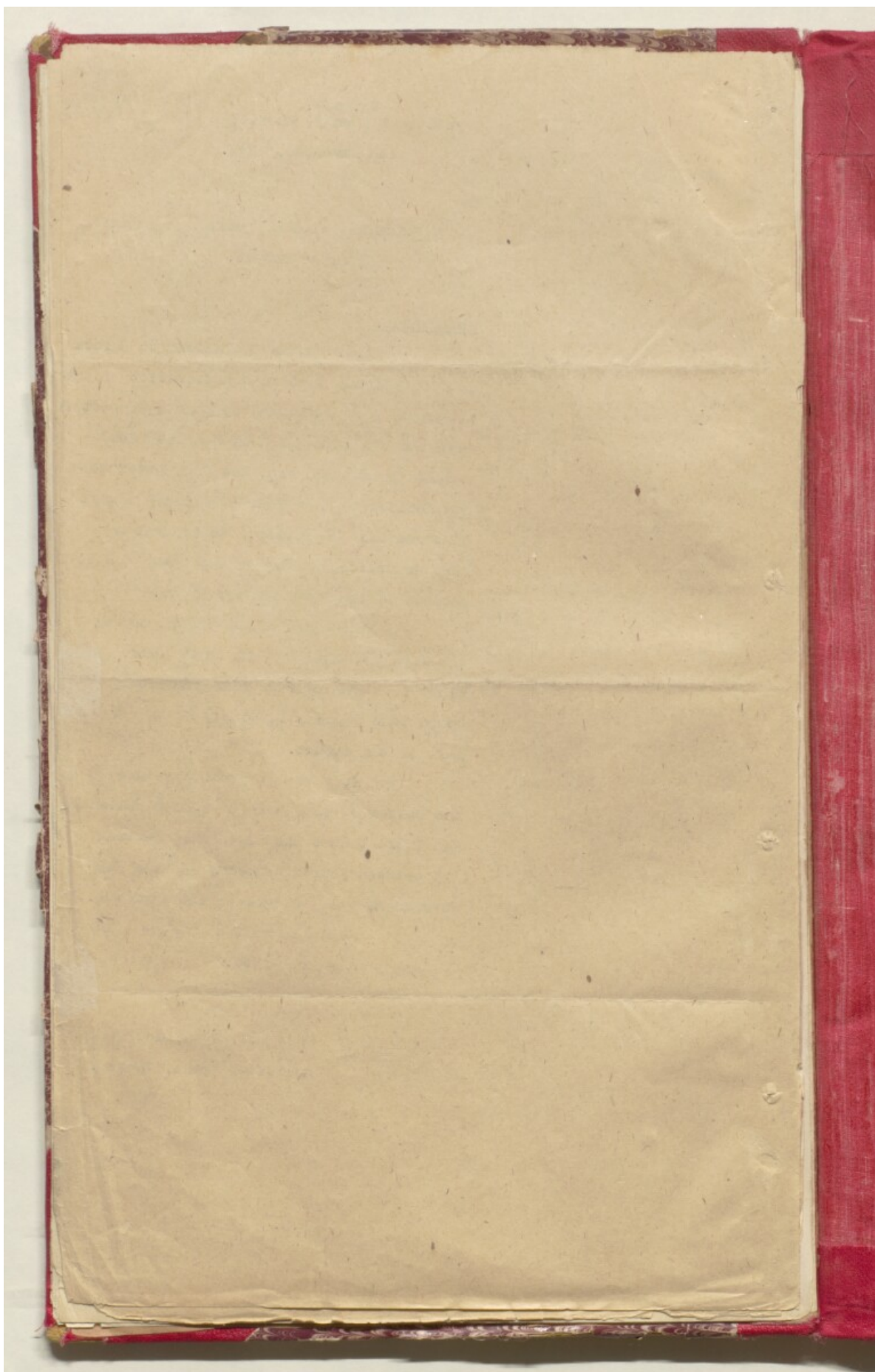
Will you kindly inform me how and when you wish payment to be made. It would be convenient if Your Excellency could take payment in Bombay or the greater part of the amount.

It gives me great pleasure to be the bearer of this news to Your Excellency and I trust that the friendship between us and between Your Excellency and the High Government will be ever on the increase.

This is what has to be said.
May you be preserved.

Sd/- D.V. McCallum, Esq.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

A.L.



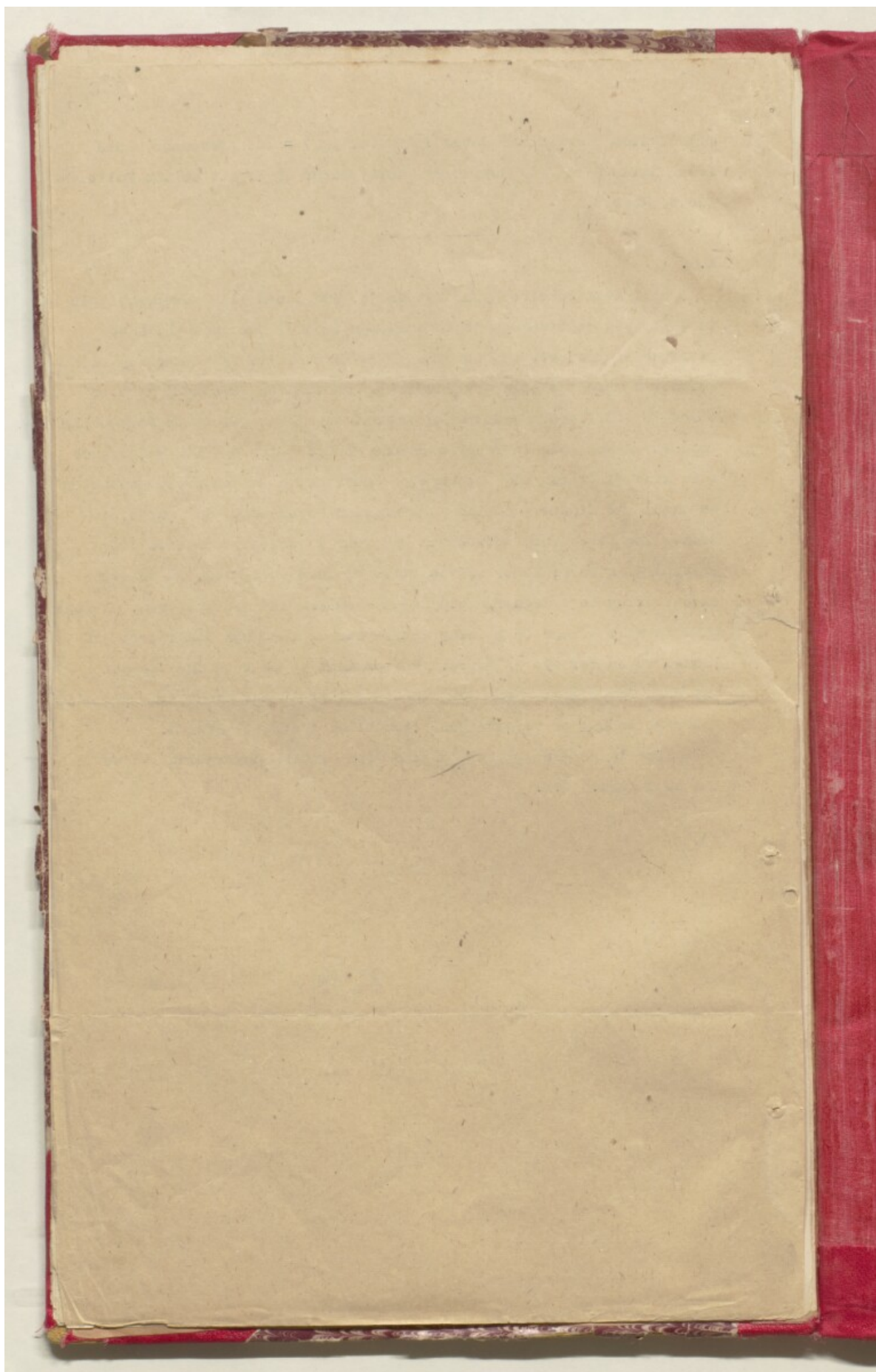


116
119
Translation of a letter dated 7th Safar 1337 = 13th November, 1918
from Shaikh Salim el Mubarak es Sabah, Ruler of Kuwait to the Political
Agent, Kuwait.

A.C.

I have received your letter No. 1633 dated 11th November, 1918
in which you mentioned that in consideration of the loss which we
sustained in connection with the Blockade which it was necessary to
establish here the High Government has decided to give us a gift of
three lacs of rupees and the Government has also decided to forego the
loan which was due in respect of the Kuwait Water Plant. We compare
this kind gift with the greatest of benevolence and on every condition
we thank the kindness of the High British Government and your kind
deed. The friendship between us and Your Excellency and with the
British High Government, if God will, will be increased, as we are
endeavouring to safeguard it by being sincere in word and deed. I hope
that we will always be gaining the favour of the High Government and
looked at in her eye of grace. The payment is left to the idea of
the High Government when she wishes - either to our Agent Mohamed Salim
Gaderawi Bombay or to our Agent 'Abd Allah el Khalil Basrah.

Finally we are praying for the High British Government and we wish
the best luck. U.E.





504
24.8.19

120 (117)

No. 22837
6/13

Office of the Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad, the 7th August 1919.

TO :-

(1) The Under Secretary of State for India,
London, S. W. I. (2 copies)

(2) The Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign & Political Department,
SIMLA.

Memorandum.

A copy of the undernoted* correspondence is for-
warded with compliments for information reference --

For Lt. Col. I.A.
Ag: Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.

Copy to :-

G.O.S., G. W. O.

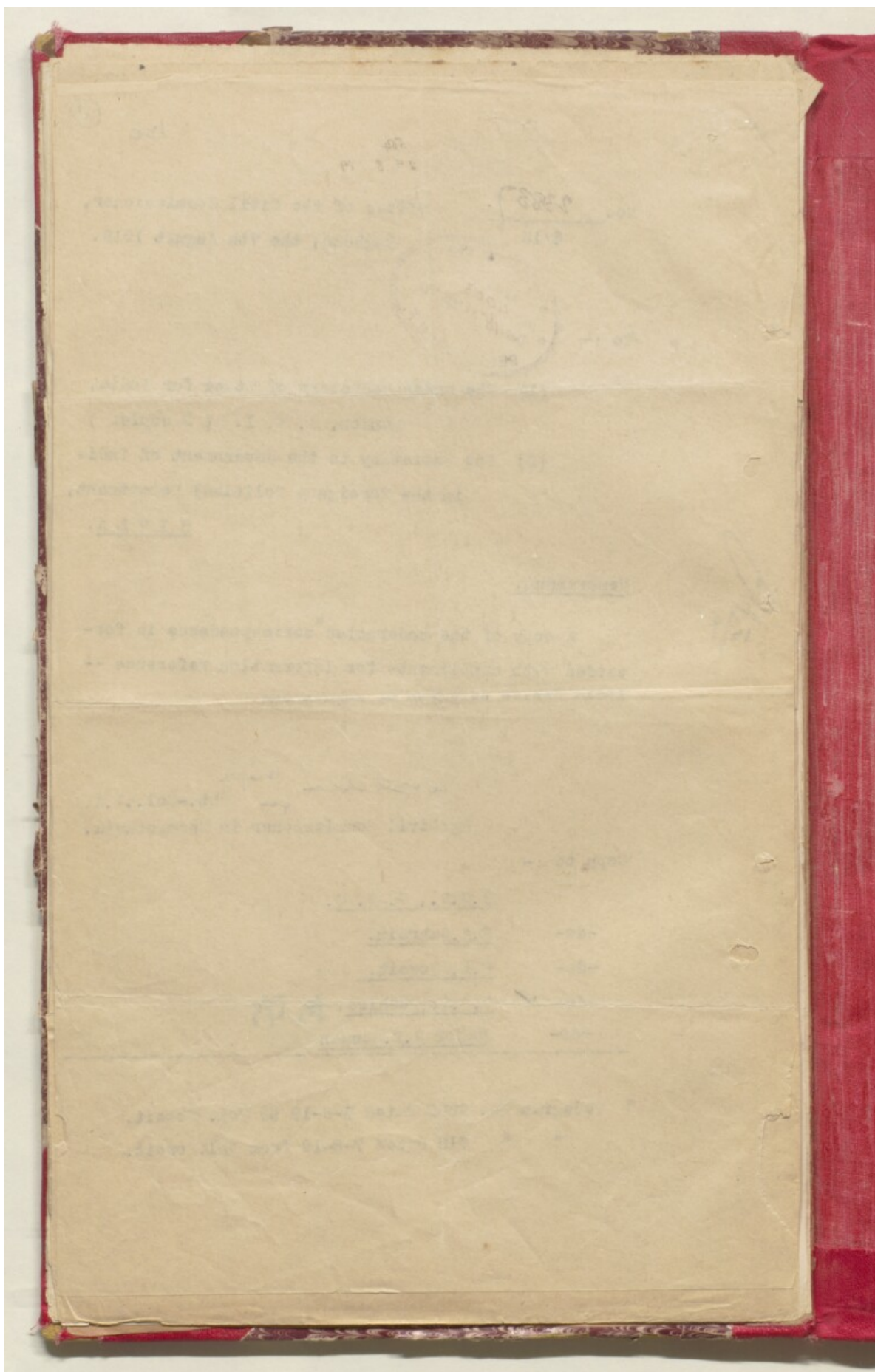
-do- P.A. Bahrain.

-do- P.A. Kuwait.

-do- ✓ P.T.D. Bushire. 13/8/19

-do- Major R.E. Bowman

* Telegram No. 8698 dated 3-8-19 to Pol. Kuwait.
" " 716 dated 7-8-19 from Pol. Kuwait.





12 / 48
Telegram.

From Political Baghdad.

To Political Kuwait.

No. 3698

Dated 3-8-1919.

Following for Shaikh Salim begins. - His Majesty's Government invites your Excellency to send Shaikh Ahmad Ibn Jabir to London. A similar invitation is being extended to the son of a mutual friend.

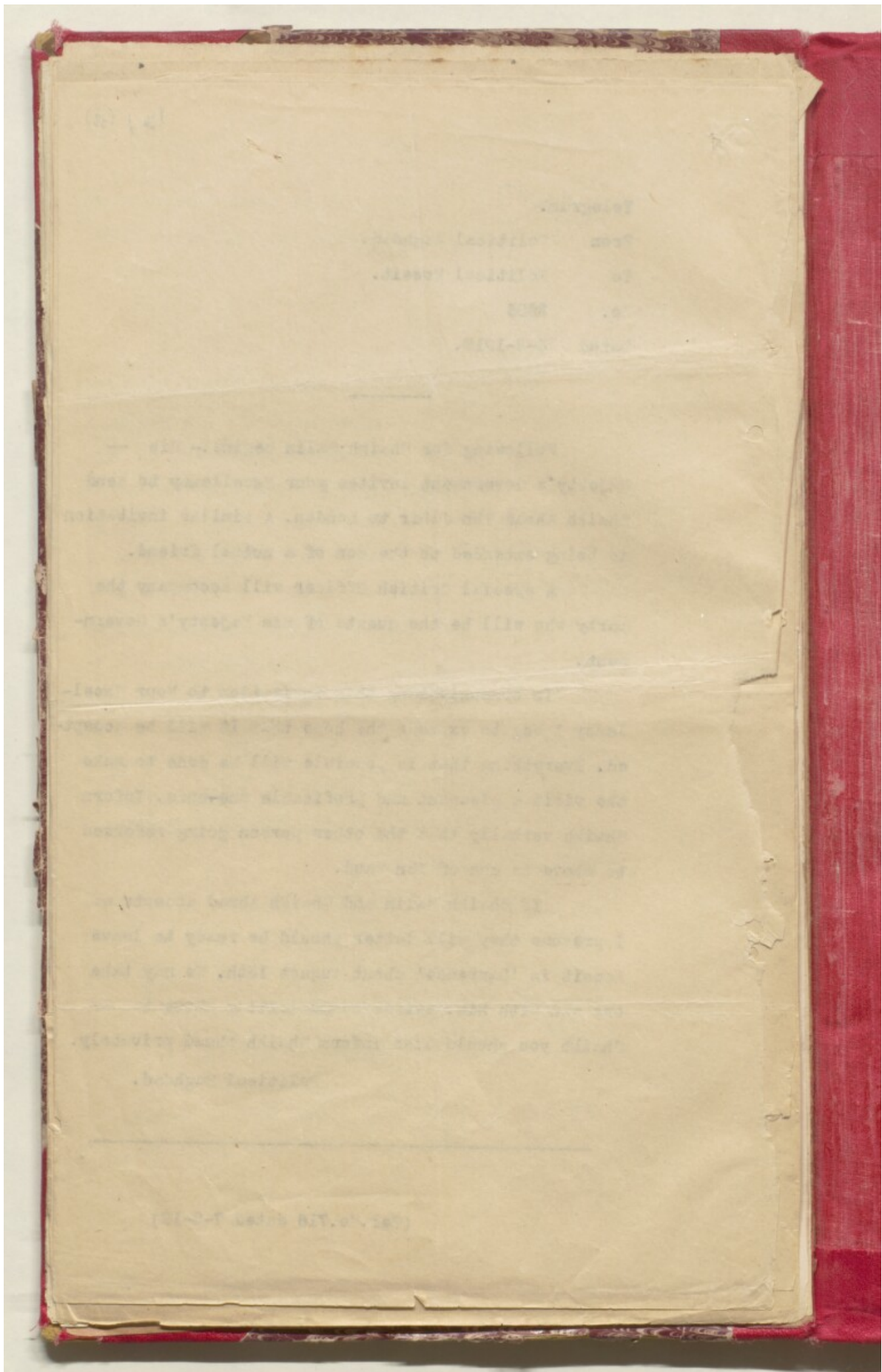
A special British Officer will accompany the party who will be the guests of His Majesty's Government.

In communicating this invitation to Your Excellency I beg to express the hope that it will be accepted. Everything that is possible will be done to make the visit a pleasant and profitable one-ends. Inform Shaikh verbally that the other person going referred to above is son of Ibn Saud.

If Shaikh Salim and Shaikh Ahmad accepts, as I presume they will latter should be ready to leave Kuwait in 'Lawrence' about August 15th. He may take one man with him. Besides communicating above to Shaikh you should also inform Shaikh Ahmad privately.

Political Baghdad.

(Tel. No. 716 dated 7-8-19)





2.

(119)
122

Telegram.

From Political Kuwait.

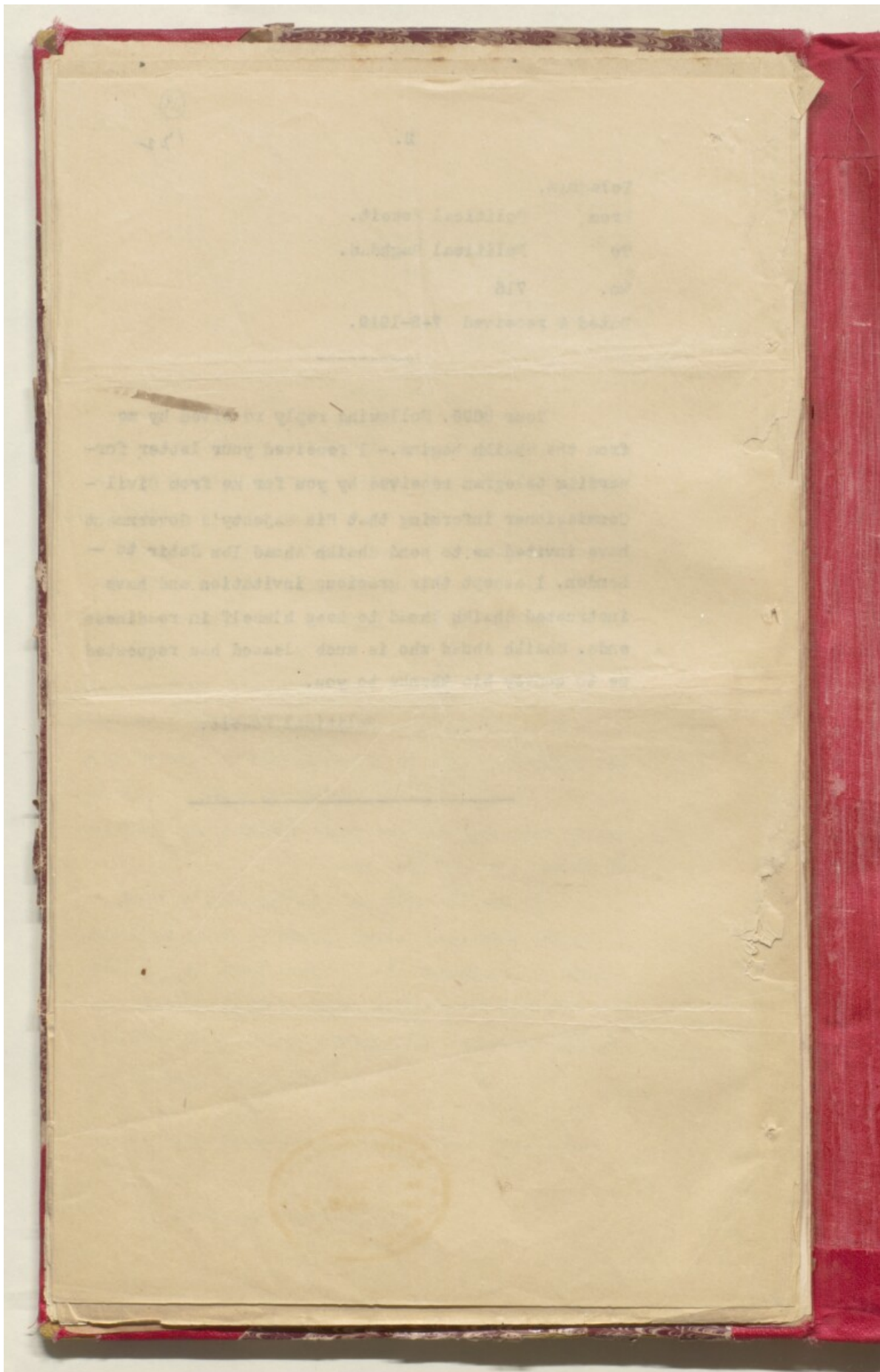
To Political Baghdad.

No. 716

Dated & received 7-8-1919.

Your 8698. Following reply received by me from the Shaikh begins.- I received your letter forwarding telegram received by you for me from Civil - Commissioner informing that His Majesty's Government have invited me to send Shaikh Ahmad Ibn Jabir to -- London. I accept this gracious invitation and have instructed Shaikh Ahmad to keep himself in readiness ends. Shaikh Ahmad who is much pleased has requested me to convey his thanks to you.

Political Kuwait.





Telegram (P) (PRIORITY)

From :- The Secretary of State for India, London.

To :- Political, Baghdad.
(Repeated Viceroy, Simla).

Dated 2nd August 1919.

Received 3rd August 1919.

The proposals with regard to Arab Visitors
put forward in your telegrams No. 7793 and No. 7794
of July 13th
are approved of.

Secretary of State for India,
London.

-----o00000-----

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY	No
Ref No. 538	23391
Date 26-9-19	
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS	

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER,
BAGHDAD, the 3rd AUGUST 1919.

Political Agent, Bahrain.

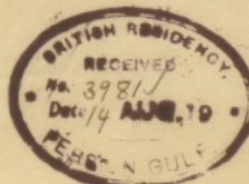
" " Koweit.

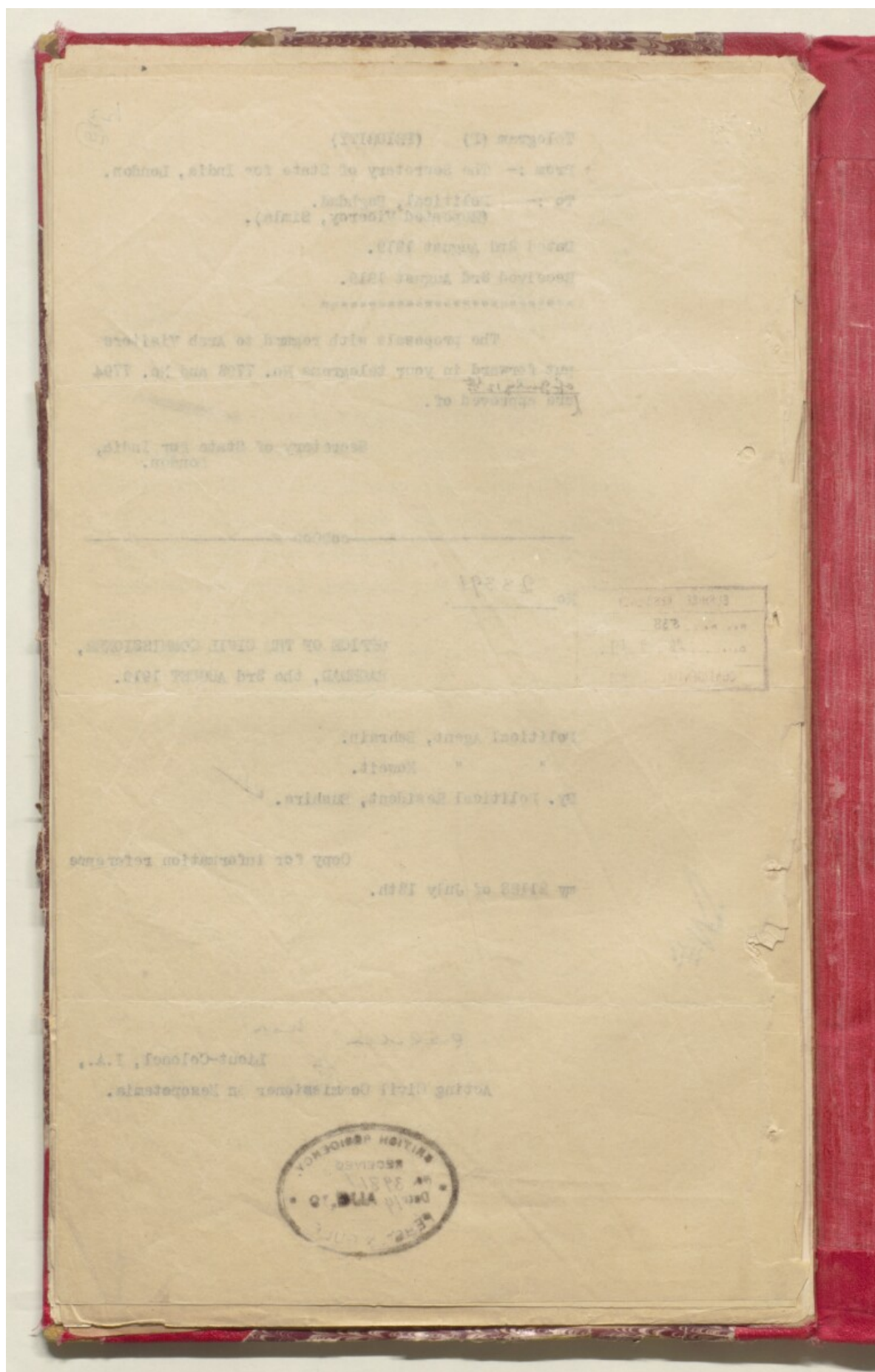
Dy. Political Resident, Bushire. ✓

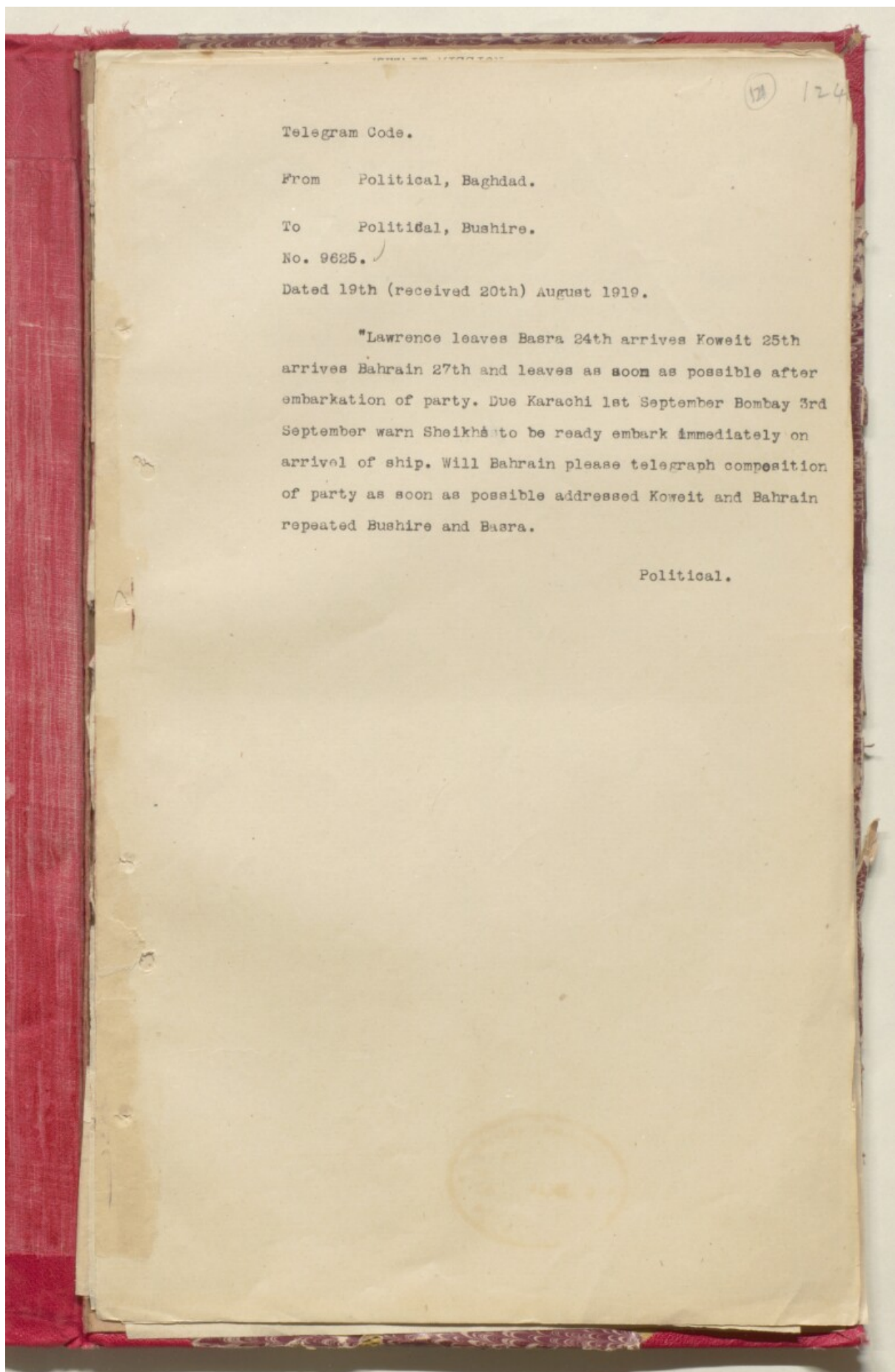
Copy for information reference

my 21128 of July 13th.

Encl. 11/18
Encl. 11/18
Lieut-Colonel, I.A.,
Acting Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.







Telegram Code.

From Political, Baghdad.

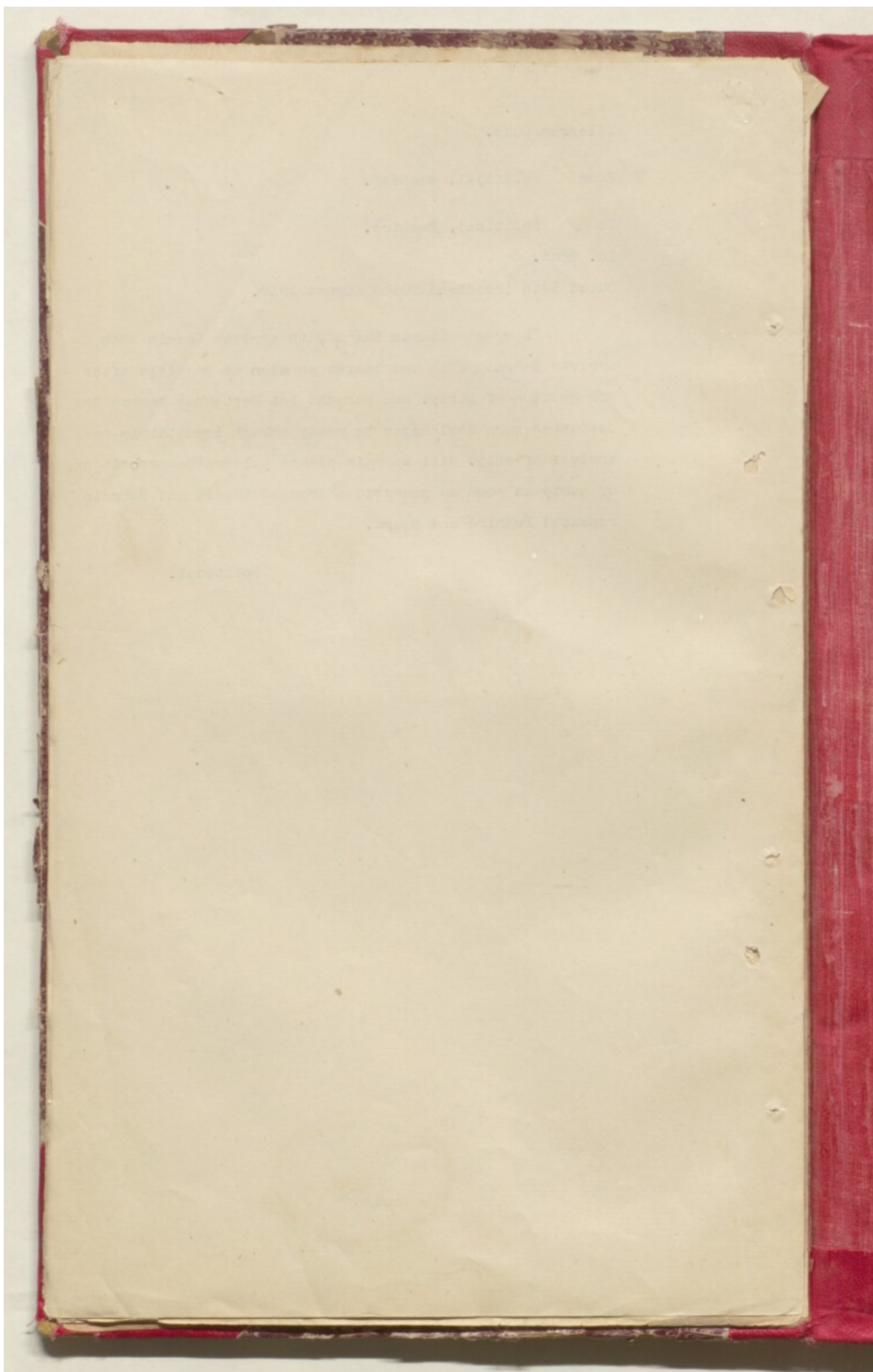
To Political, Bushire.

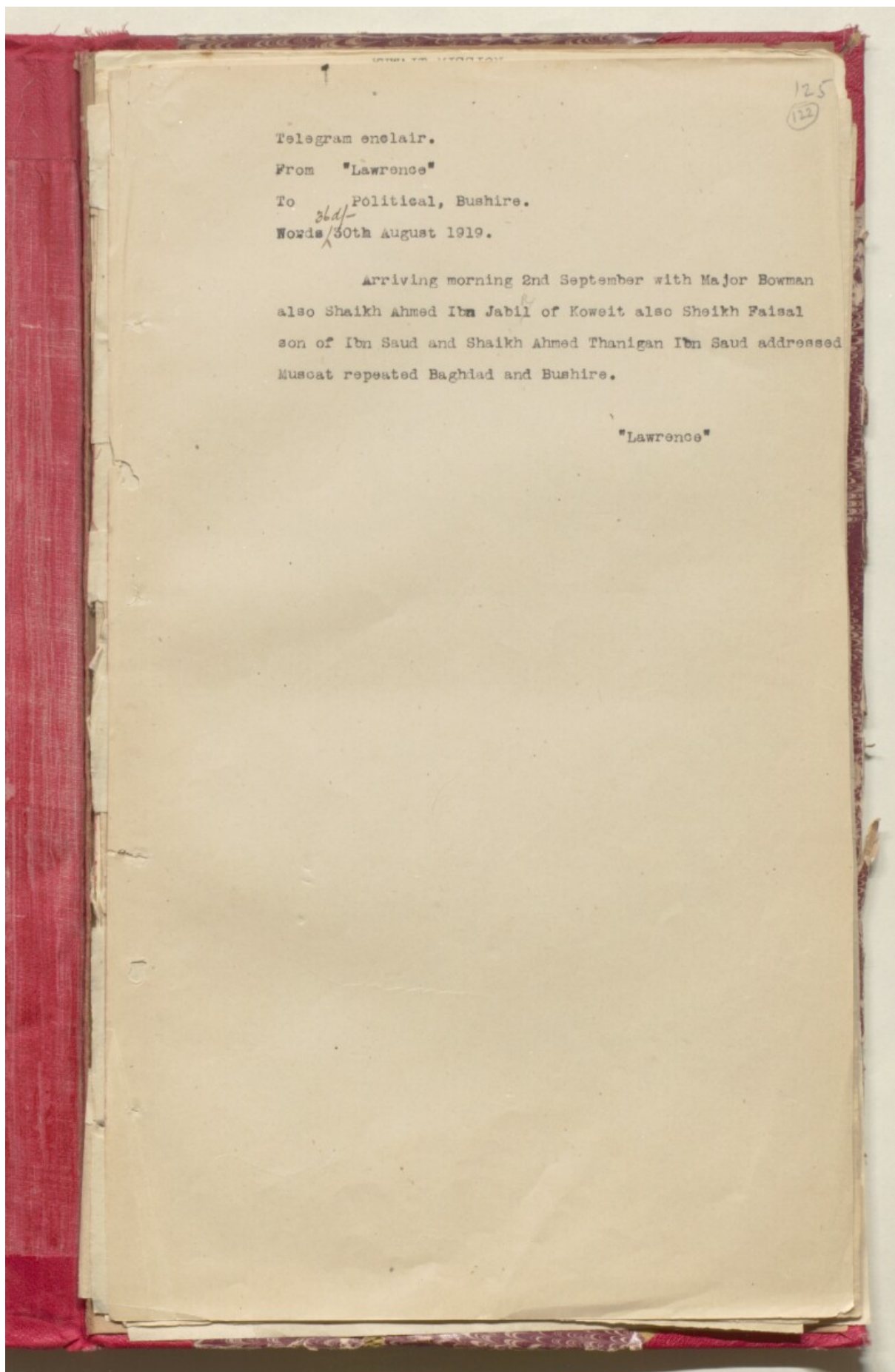
No. 9625.

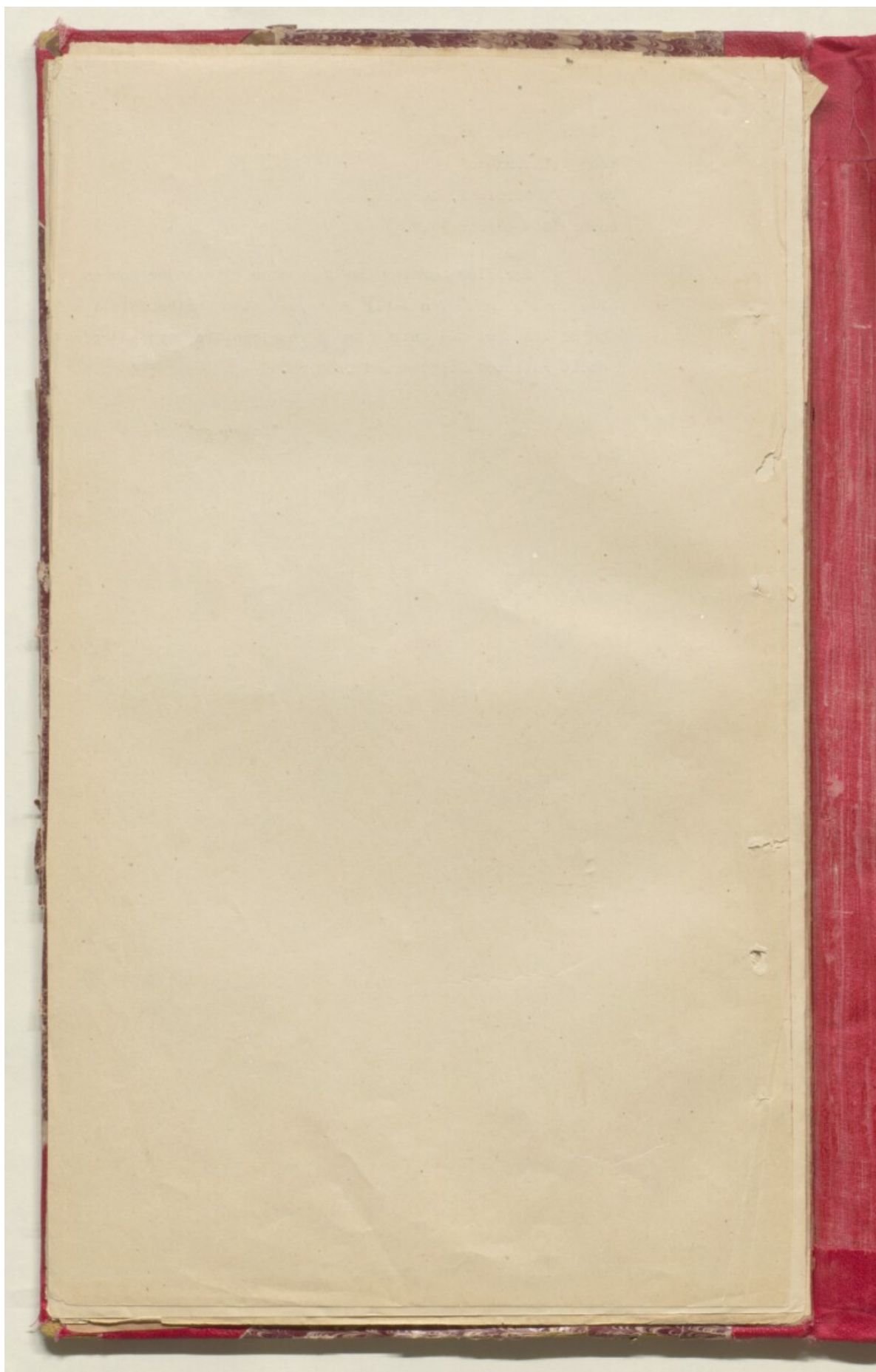
Dated 19th (received 20th) August 1919.

"Lawrence leaves Basra 24th arrives Koweit 25th
arrives Bahrain 27th and leaves as soon as possible after
embarkation of party. Due Karachi 1st September Bombay 3rd
September warn Sheikha to be ready embark immediately on
arrival of ship. Will Bahrain please telegraph composition
of party as soon as possible addressed Koweit and Bahrain
repeated Bushire and Basra.

Political.









53/32

(123)
126

Telegram - Code

From Civil Commissioner, Baghdad

To India Office, London

No. 15717

Dated 30th December 1919

" Shaikh Ahmad of Koweit asks me to express his gratitude to the officers of the India Office in general and to Sir James Dunlop Smith in particular for the arrangements made for his comfort whilst in London. He has expressed himself most gratified with this treatment, and I consider that his tour is likely to have good political effect.

Civil Commissioner, Baghdad.

No. 38814

Office of the Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad, the 31st December 1919.

6/13

P. A. KOWEIT.

/D.P.R. BUSHIRE

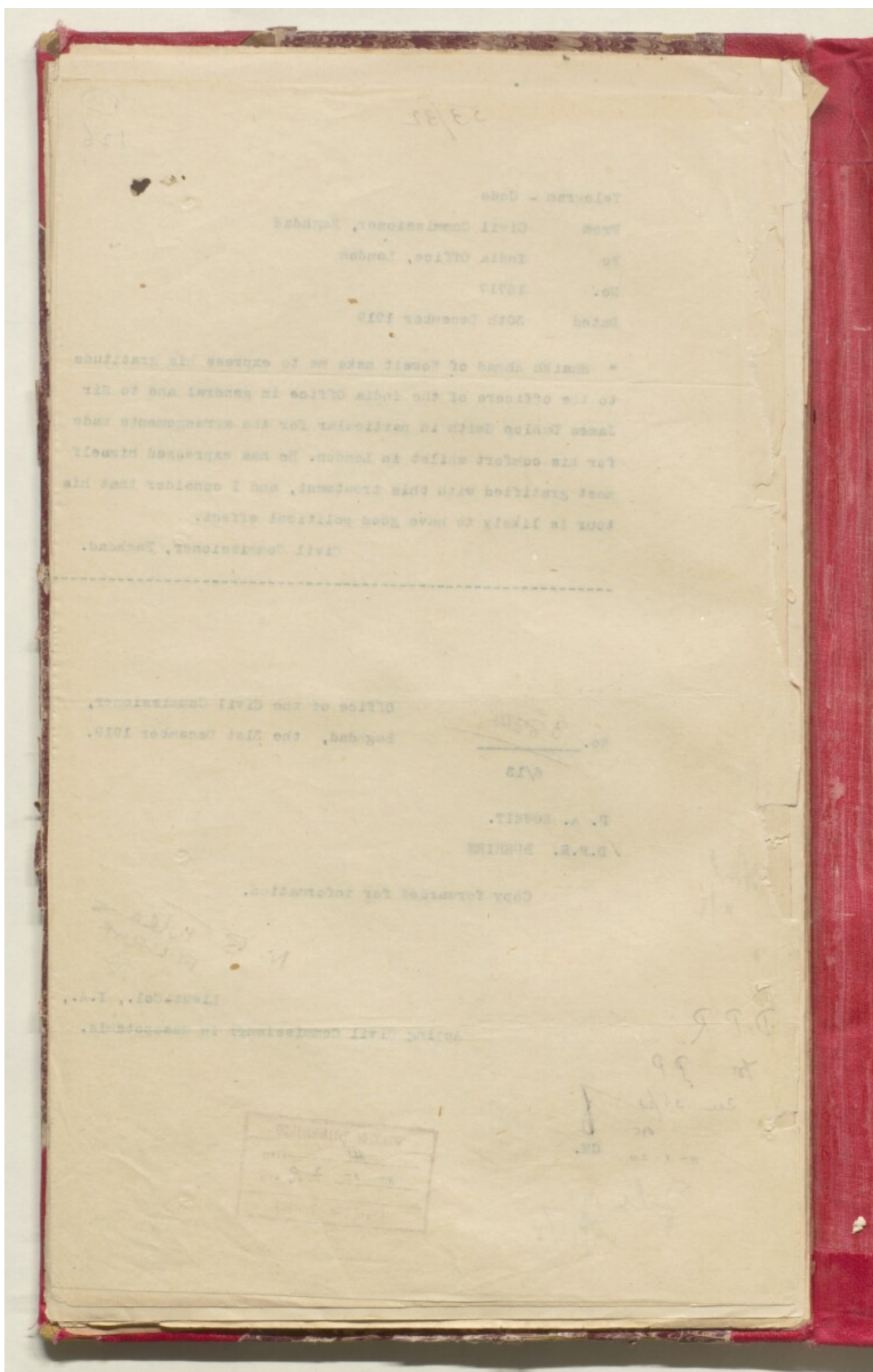
Copy forwarded for information.

M. B. Wileas
P. A. KOWEIT
for

Lieut.-Col., I.A.,
Acting Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.

D.P.R.
for P.P.
see slips
ac
11-1-20.
CM.
File 2/14

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD
47
11-1-20
BUSHIRE RESIDENCY





53/32. 127 (124)

Telegram.Code.Ordinary
From C.C.Baghdad
To Secy.of State for India London.
No.15445.
Dated 22/12/1920.

Following for Leachman. Begins. My telegram of 18th November 13613. Kuwait will be vacant next month. Please telegraph if you are willing to return. Should you accept post you would, subject to concurrence of India Office represent this side on any Commission that may be sent hereafter to Bin Saud.

Can offer you renewal of contract for further period of 12 months. Ends.

C.C.Baghdad.

Telegram.Code.
From Secy.of State for India,London.
To Civil Commissioner, Baghdad
No. nil.
Dated and 9th and recd. 19/1/1920.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
NO. 89
D. 28-1-20
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

Your telegram December 22nd 15445. Leachman accepts. Medical Board report him fit sailed on 15th January.

S.of S.for India,London.

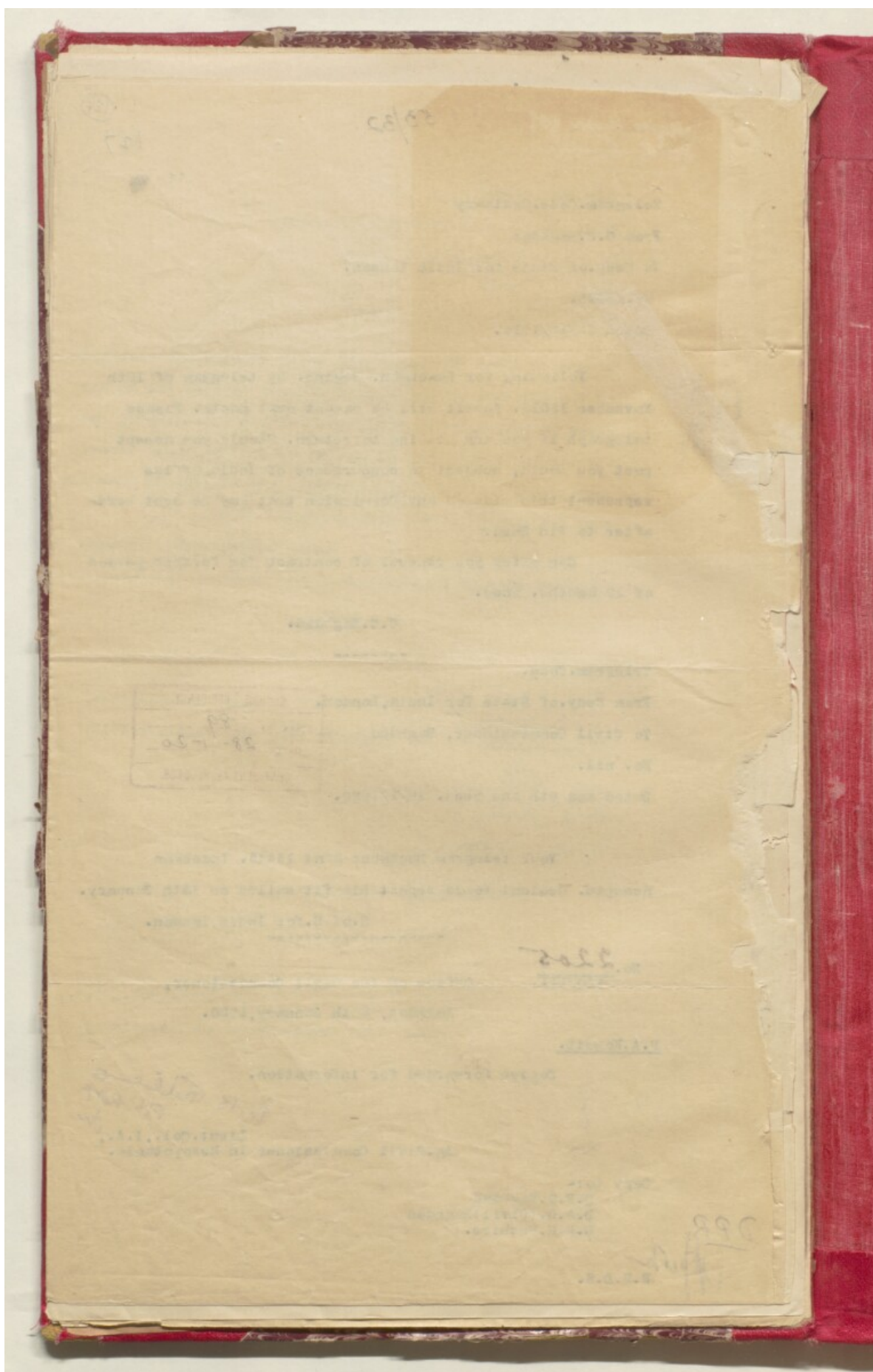
No. 2205
100/111. Office of the Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad, 20th January, 1920.

P.A.Kuwait.
Copies forwarded for information.

N.B. Files
AL-RAT
Lieut.Col., I.A.,
Ag.Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.

Copy to:-
D.F.S.Baghdad
D.A.G.(Civil)Baghdad
D.F.R.Bushire. ✓
B.S.D.S.

DPR
Auk





Major General C. B. F.

Political Agency, Kuwait
December 28th, 1919.

95 (125)
6-2-20
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

My dear Colonel

An account of the Kuwait Mission's experiences will no doubt be interesting to you. To begin with I must explain how it came about that I was given charge of it.

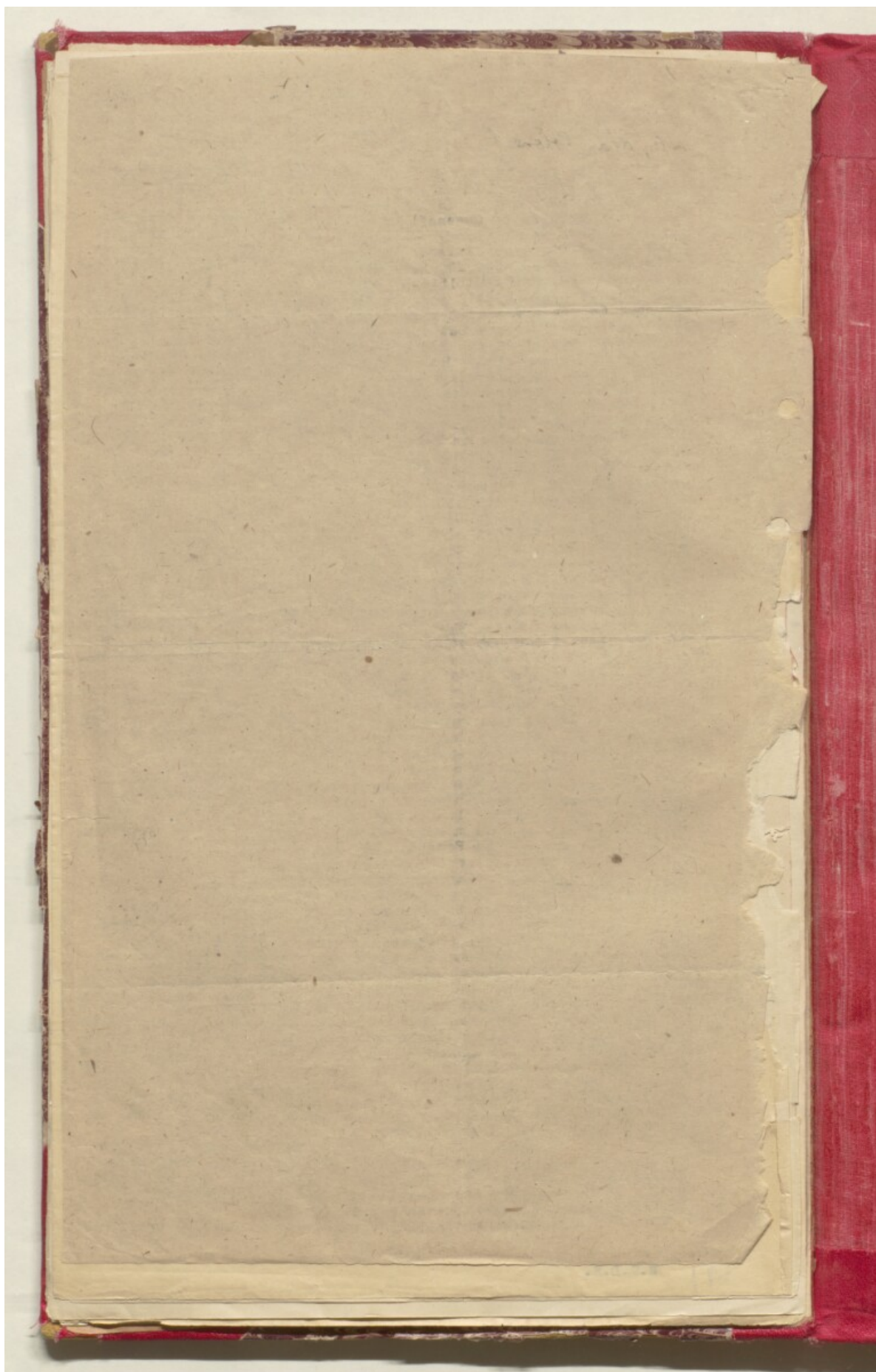
My leave expired, as you know, on October 1st but, presumably due to the Railway Strike in England about that time, the India Office did not arrange a passage for me until November 8th. On October 22nd I received a telegram from Philby saying: "When are you coming London? Kuwait people hope to see you." I left home next day and arrived in London on the 24th. That night I dined at the Savoy with Philby and the Kuwait and Najd Missions. I had not much time with Shaikh Ahmad that night but called at his house next day where I remained with him several hours. He was very depressed and had a long list of complaints for me. He had been about a fortnight in London at this time. He evidently disliked both Bowman and Philby. The former, he informed me, wanted to have his boxes searched at Bombay to look for two towels which the cabin-boy of the "Lawrence" said were missing from his cabin when he was leaving the ship. Finally on his refusing to submit to such an insult, Bowman appears to have told him he would pay the "Lawrence" the cost of the towels and debit the amount to expenses. There were some other incidents too in regard to Bowman which he did not like. Then on arrival in England Philby was put in charge with Bowman to help him. His complaints against Philby were first that the latter did not wire to me until the 22nd though he (the Shaikh) had been asking him to do so every day since his arrival in England, and secondly that the Najd Mission was being treated with partiality. As regards the latter complaint I think Philby had been doing his best to be impartial and that the real cause of discontent was that he did not wish to be with the Najd people. Anyhow I went to the India Office and put the whole case before the Political Secretary who arranged that neither Philby nor Bowman was to have any more to do with the Kuwait Mission and that I was to take charge of it as from October 27th inclusive.

It appears that through some mistake the India Office was not informed of the arrival in England of the Missions until a day or so before they actually arrived. The hotels were all full up and the only accommodation found for them the first night was in a small hotel out in Norwood. They were hours going around in cars before they got there and of course this upset them. Next day they were given accommodation in a private house in Pimlico (49, St. Georges Road), and here they had to remain until October 27th when accommodation became available in the Carlton. From this onward they had excellent accommodation everywhere they went. While in the private house in Pimlico they had their meals at the Savoy but of course it was a bit of a nuisance having to go out for their meals and very often the Kuwait Mission had to do without food as they did not feel inclined to go out for them.

Both Missions were in the Carlton from October 27th to November 3rd when the Najd Mission went on to Cambridge while we went on to Glasgow where we were to embark five days later. At the Carlton we dined apart and saw very little of the Najd party. Our last week in London was spent mainly in shopping buying such things as cloth, saddlery, rugs, watches, dressing gowns, sporting guns and ammunition, trunks, binoculars, etc., to the value of upwards of £700. Before I assumed charge they had seen Greenwich Observatory, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Cathedral, underground London. I took them to Hampton Court, the Zoological Gardens etc. There was a very good exhibition at the Theatre of Mysteries which I took them to one night. They were delighted and in fact astounded at what they saw there. They did not much care for ordinary theatres so we usually filled up our nights by going to Cinemas which they did appreciate.

On October 30th I took them to Buckingham Palace. A detailed account of this is attached. The Najd party were presented before us. They had 8 minutes audience with the King while we had 17. The Kuwait party actually timed it and consider they made a great score over the others.

On October 31st, I took my party to see the Secretary





of State for India. There is nothing special to record regarding this except perhaps that the interview was a very pleasant one.

We left London on November 3rd and arrived in Glasgow next morning. Here we stayed at the Central Station Hotel. On November 5th we had luncheon at the City Chambers with the Lord Provost, aldermen and friends. After luncheon we inspected the City Chambers and then went to see the University and Art Galleries. Next day we motored to Queensferry via Edinburgh, saw the Forth Bridge and were taken through a submarine. The next day was to be our last in Britain: we visited some shipping yards and then went to the aerodrome at Renfrew. Here we saw scores of aeroplanes of different types, then exhibitions of flying and finally the Shaikh's three followers and myself went up in separate planes. We tried very hard to get the Shaikh himself to fly. He got so far as to get dressed and into one but then his courage forsook him and he made excuses saying it was not big enough for him, that he was afraid he might touch what he was told he should keep clear of, etc and finally got out. It was a great pity we could not get him to go up. Next day, November 8th we sailed from Glasgow.

The Shaikh is a very poor sailor and as we had exceptionally bad weather almost the whole of the way it cannot be said that he enjoyed his time on board. We passed a floating mine in the Mediterranean. This added to his discomfiture. He was very nervous after that until we arrived in Alexandria. We got there on the morning of November 21st.

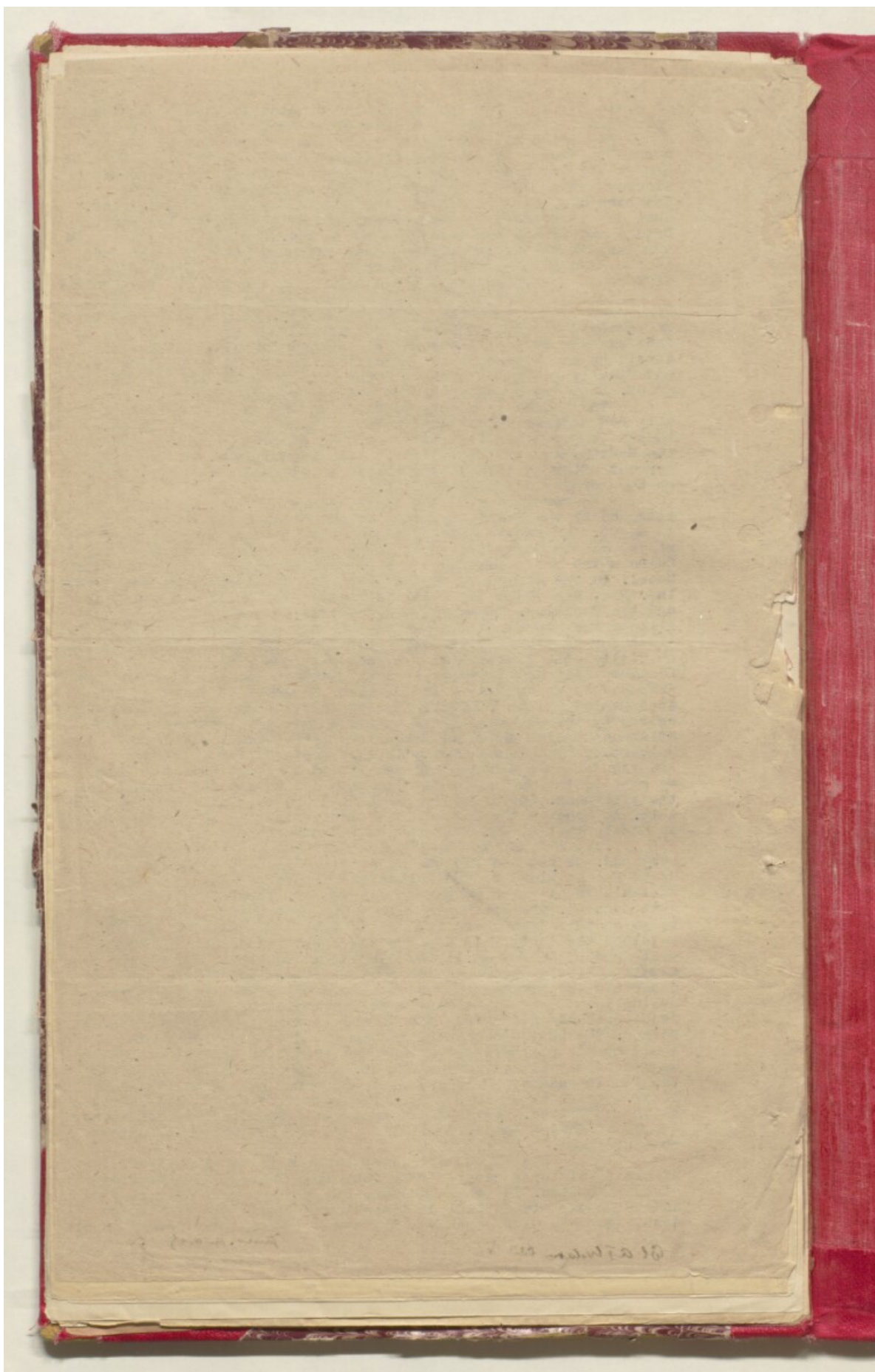
We were met by Major Gayer Anderson, R.A.M.C., an officer attached by the Residency, Cairo to the Mission during its stay in Egypt. We saw as much of Alexandria as possible that day. We stayed at the Savoy Hotel that night and next morning set out for Cairo which we reached about noon. Here we stayed at Shephard's Hotel. In the afternoon of the first day we attended a race meeting. Next day (November 23rd) we visited the Zoological Gardens and the Pyramids. November 24th, the Mission was received by Lord Allenby who presented the Shaikh with two autographed photographs - one for himself and the other for Shaikh Salim. In the afternoon we visited the Citadel and were shown through the Mosque of Mohammed 'Ali and afterwards we attended an At Home given by the Arab Bureau in honour of the Mission. November 25th, Shaikh Ahmad accompanied by the Residency First Assistant and myself was received by the Sultan. It was quite a friendly interview. In the afternoon Shaikh Ahmad and his suite were taken to the Azar University by a Mohammedan gentleman arranged for by Major Anderson as we could not accompany them there. November 26th, we went to the Museum in the forenoon and around the bazaars in the afternoon. November 27th, we left Cairo for Suez to rejoin our ship. As however the ship did not arrive in time we had to remain in hotels that night. Next morning we embarked.

All the way up the Persian Gulf the weather was again very bad. We reached Fao bar at noon on December 10th. We got up to Fao at midnight and waited there several hours for the Shaikh's yacht which we saw on our way up. It arrived about 3 a.m. next morning. The Shaikh and his party then transhipped but I had to go on to Basrah where the "Lewis Pelly" was waiting for me. I rejoined the party next day (December 12th) and then we were weatherbound at Fao until the morning of the 15th. We got to Kuwait a little before sunset that evening. The whole town was decorated (by arrangement) and both our ships were also dressed coming in. There was a huge crowd, estimated at over 6,000 people and extending from the Agency to well beyond the Shaikh's palace. The Shaikh's battery boomed out five guns for Shaikh Ahmad as his ship dropped anchor and seven for me as I stepped ashore to pay him an arrival visit. He (Shaikh Salim) met me at the landing steps and escorted me to there again when taking my leave. Shaikh Ahmad went direct to his own house and did not even enter the Palace. Shaikh Salim was, I understand, very upset at our choice of Shaikh Ahmad. This will form the subject of a further communication.

Shaikh Ahmad is very popular in Kuwait and in view of his possible succession I am very glad Shaikh Salim was not given an option. The trip has done him a very great deal of good and if we pay him sufficient attention in the future I have no doubt when his time comes we will have a really good friend in him.

Col A. W. W. 126 56

James Smith





KUWAIT MISSION.

130⁽¹⁷⁾

The Kuwait Mission will pay their homage to the King at 12 noon on Thursday 30th October. They will consist of:-

- (1). Ahmad ibn Jabir ibn Subah.
- (2). Ahmad ibn Abdul Jalil.
- (3). Jasim al Yaqub.

with a suite of one.

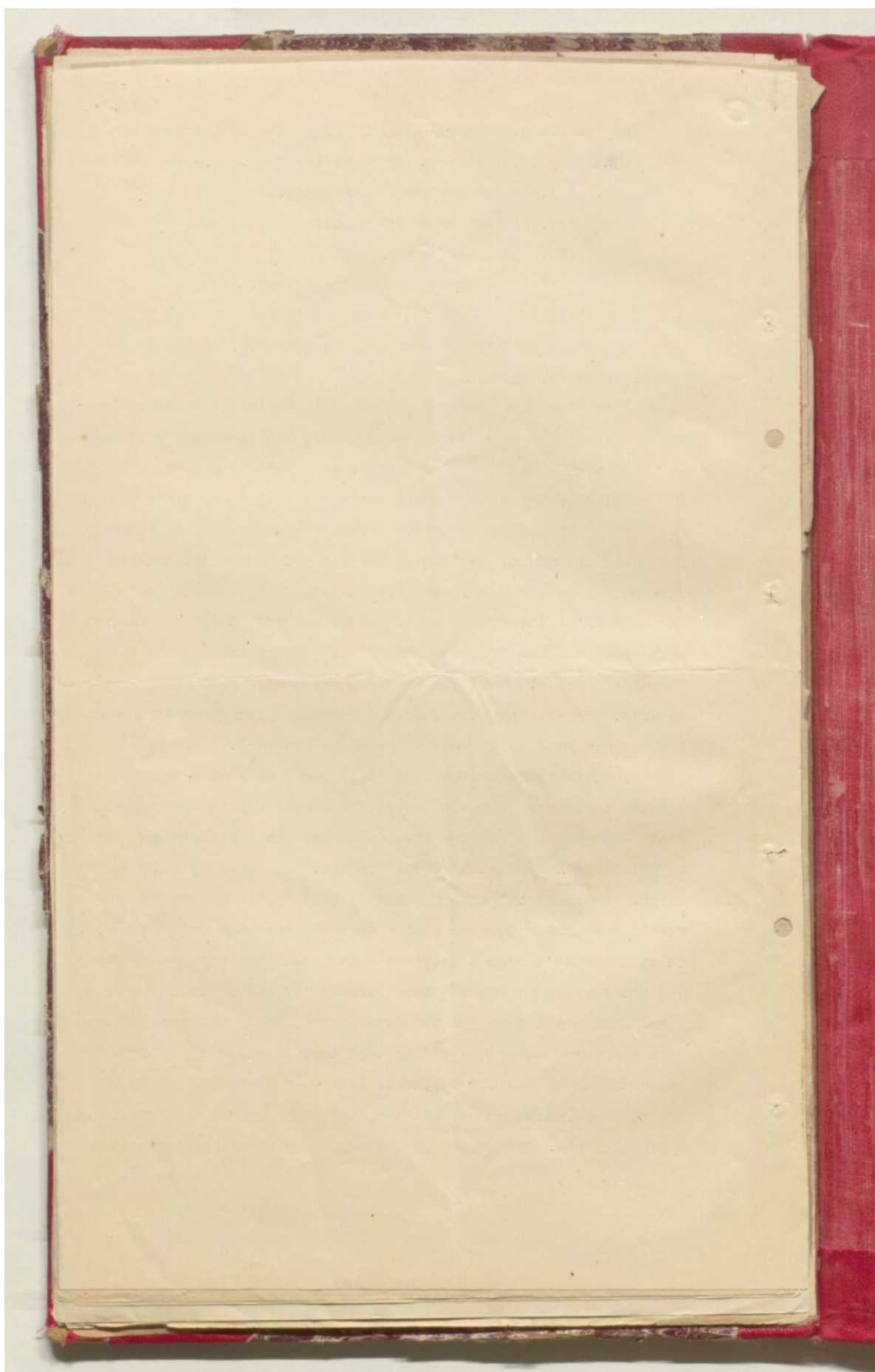
On being introduced to His Majesty's presence the three mentioned above will be presented by Captain D.V. MacCollum, Political Agent, Kuwait.

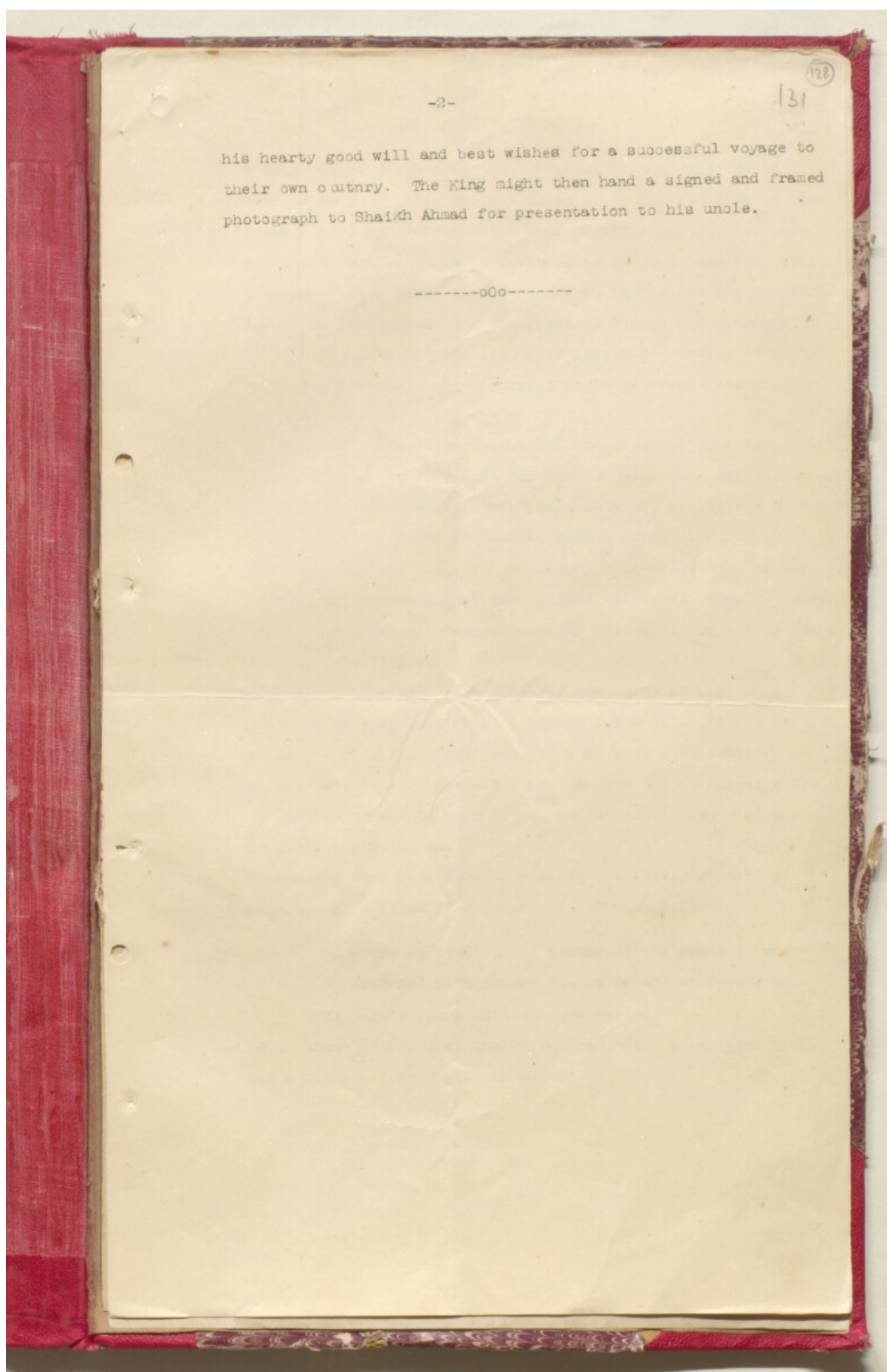
The King will then welcome them to England and ask after the health of His Excellency Shaikh Salim ibn Subah, Ruler of Kuwait.

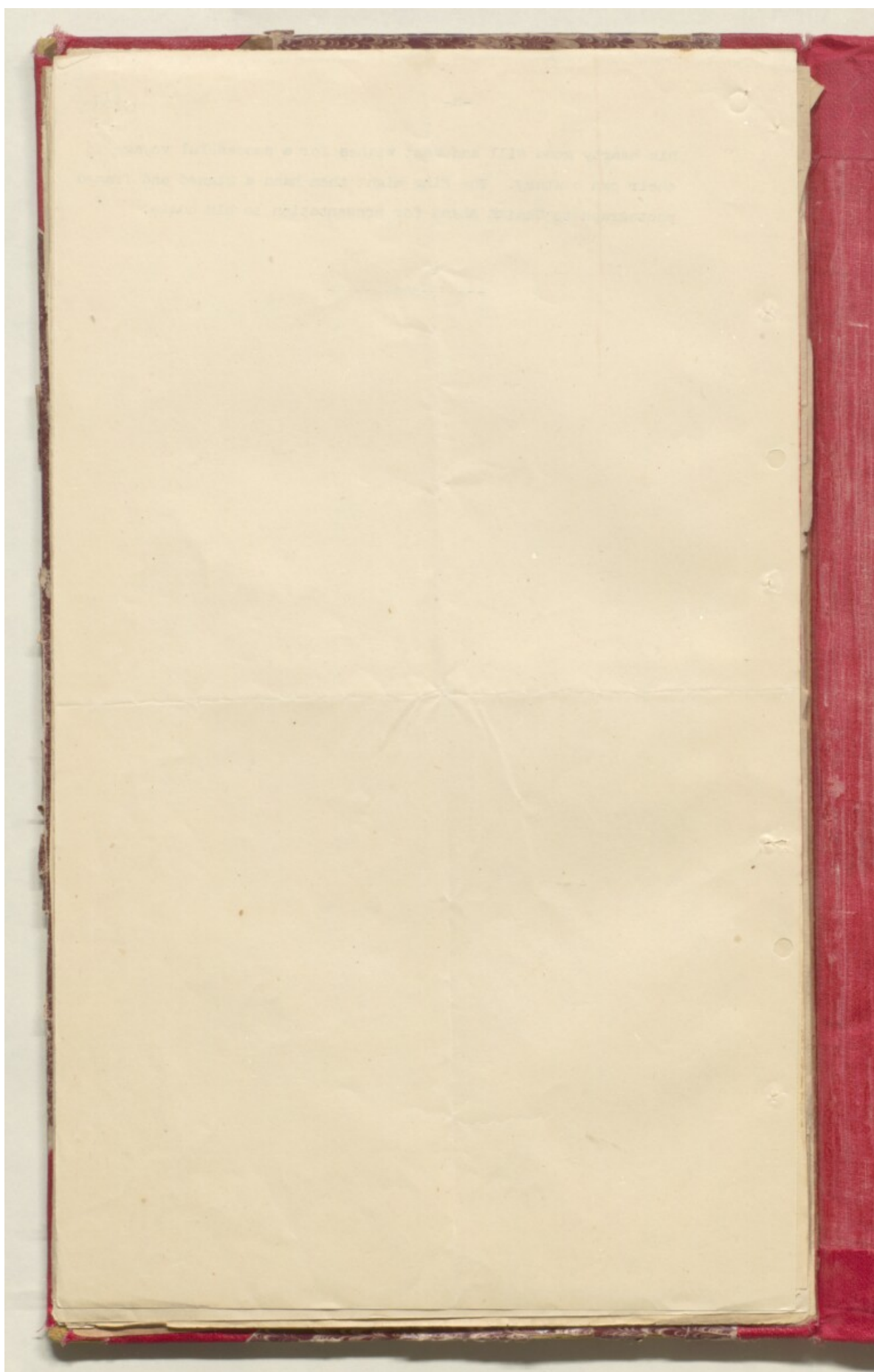
Shaikh Ahmad ibn Jabir will then express the appreciation of the Mission of the great honour conferred on them by their reception will offer the cordial congratulations of his uncle Shaikh Salim, the Ruler of Kuwait, and of all his subjects on the victorious termination of the great war, will then ask for a continuance of His Majesty's kindness and protection, and will then present the gold sword and dagger. The blade of the sword belonged to a former Sultan of Persia. Both weapons belonged to the great Shaikh Mubarak. He will explain that his personal gift of an Arab stallion to His Majesty is now on its way to England.

It is suggested that in reply the King should ask the Mission to convey to Shaikh Salim his thanks for the presents, then thank Shaikh Ahmad for the Arab horse and state his sincere pleasure in welcoming this distinguished Mission. His Majesty will say He is well aware of the long friendship between His Government and Kuwait and trusts this will grow ever stronger and more intimate. It is the King's regret that the late Shaikh Sir Mubarak al Sabah did not survive to see the final triumph of his policy. The King might then thank them for the kind expression of the sentiments of the present Ruler and assure them that in any difficulties that may arise in the future they will always be able to rely on the hearty cooperation and assistance of His Majesty's Government and their officers. The King might conclude by offering the Mission

his









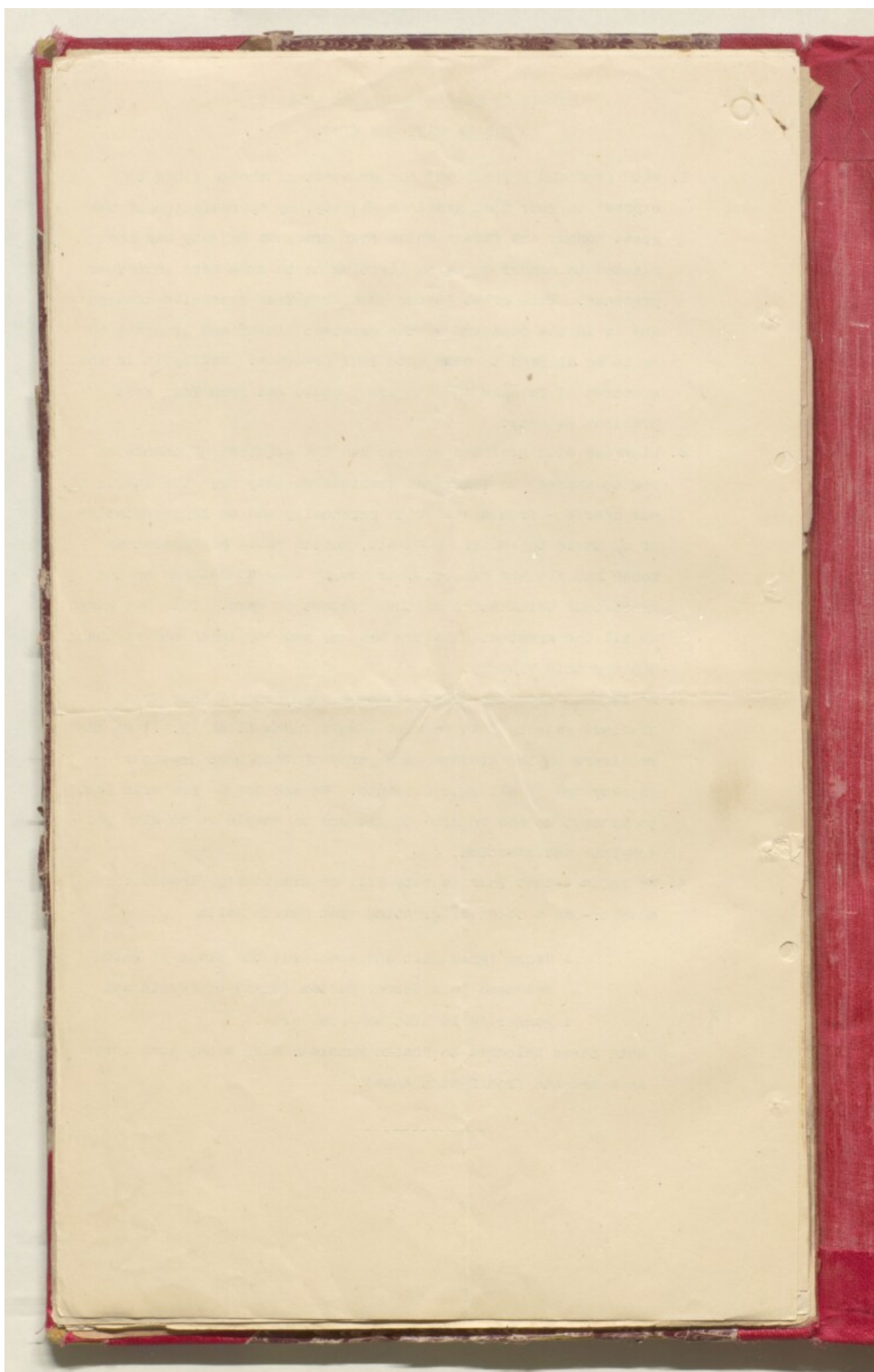
PRECIS OF SPEECH OF SHAIKH AHMAD TO
HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

(129)
132

1. With profound respect and the greatest of thanks I beg to express to Your Most Gracious Majesty, my appreciation of that great honour and favour which Your Gracious Majesty has been pleased to confer on me in inviting me to come here into Your presence. This great favour come from Your excessive kindness and it is the occasion of the greatest honour and presence to me to be allowed to come into Your presence. Verily it is the greatest of favours and honours I could get from Your Most Gracious Majesty.
2. Likewise with profound respect and the greatest of thanks, we beg to express to Your Most Gracious Majesty from the inside of our hearts - from myself both personally and as representative of my uncle the Ruler of Kuwait, Shaikh Salim al Mubarak as Sabah and all his subjects, our hearty congratulations on the victorious termination of the fiercest of wars. This has given us all the greatest pleasure and joy and happiness and we thank God for this victory.
3. We request from the great kindness and mercy of Your Most Gracious Majesty that we will always Insha Allah (D.V.) be the receivers of the kindness and mercy of Your Most Gracious Majesty and of all your subjects. We ask God to preserve you, to protect us and be kind to us, and to enable us to give you complete satisfaction.
4. We request that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to accept:- as a token of greeting from Shaikh Salim

1 Sword (gold hilt and scabbard) the blade of which
belonged to a former Sultan (Shah) of Persia and
1 Dagger (gold hilt and scabbard).

Both these belonged to Shaikh Mubarak; also a bay Arab horse
as a memento from Shaikh Ahmad.





53/32

133

No. 19/c

Political Agency, Kuwait.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dated 16th January, 1920.

To

The Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad.

Memorandum.

Dr. Mylrea has very kindly let me have a copy of an article, entitled "Sheikh Ahmad goes to England", written by him for publication in "Neglected Arabia" and probably "The Times".

As I consider it a very interesting account, I am, with his permission, sending you a copy but it is not, of course, to be used for publication.

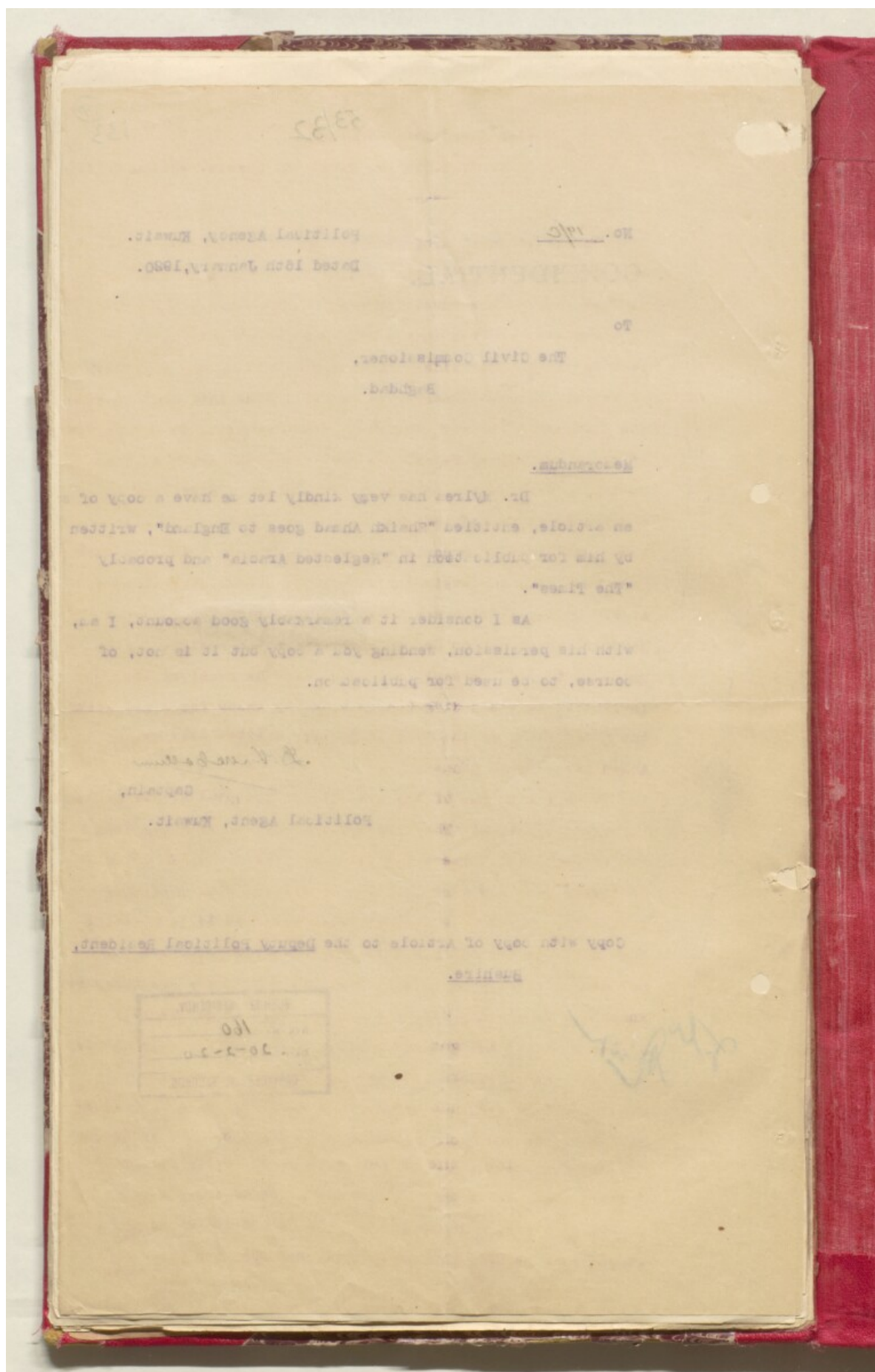
D. V. McCallum

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy with copy of Article to the Deputy Political Resident,
Bushire.

Handwritten signature

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
REG. NO. <u>160</u>
DATE <u>20-2-20</u>
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.



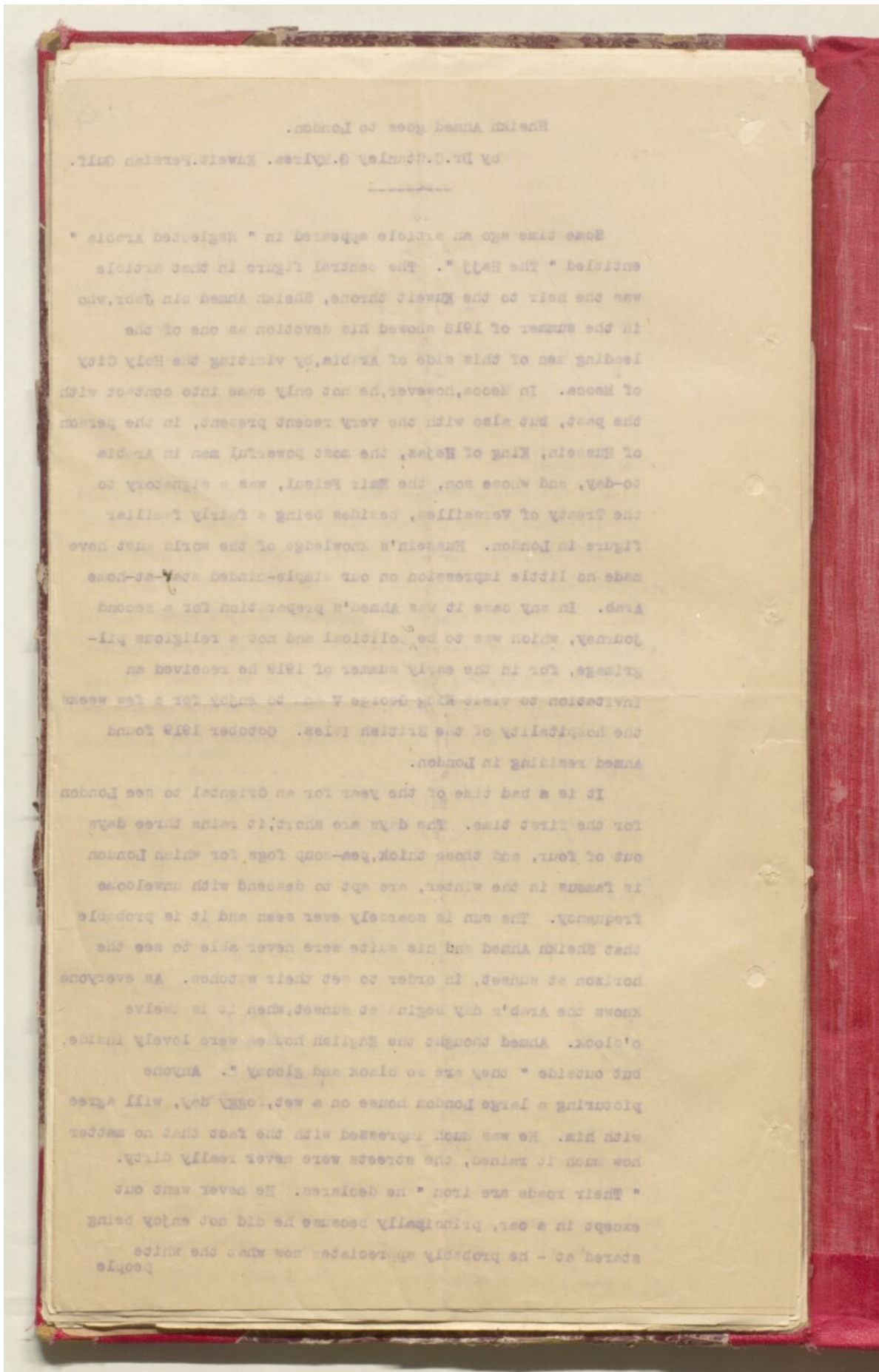


134
Sheikh Ahmed goes to London.

by Dr.C.Stanley G.Mylrea. Kuwait.Persian Gulf.

Some time ago an article appeared in " Neglected Arabia " entitled " The Hajj ". The central figure in that article was the heir to the Kuwait throne, Sheikh Ahmed bin Jabr, who in the summer of 1918 showed his devotion as one of the leading men of this side of Arabia, by visiting the Holy City of Mecca. In Mecca, however, he not only came into contact with the past, but also with the very recent present, in the person of Hussein, King of Hejaz, the most powerful man in Arabia to-day, and whose son, the Emir Feisal, was a signatory to the Treaty of Versailles, besides being a fairly familiar figure in London. Hussein's knowledge of the world must have made no little impression on our simple-minded stay-at-home Arab. In any case it was Ahmed's preparation for a second journey, which was to be political and not a religious pilgrimage, for in the early summer of 1919 he received an invitation to visit King George V and to enjoy for a few weeks the hospitality of the British Isles. October 1919 found Ahmed residing in London.

It is a bad time of the year for an Oriental to see London for the first time. The days are short; it rains three days out of four, and those thick, pea-soup fogs for which London is famous in the winter, are apt to descend with unwelcome frequency. The sun is scarcely ever seen and it is probable that Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were never able to see the horizon at sunset, in order to set their watches. As everyone knows the Arab's day begins at sunset, when it is twelve o'clock. Ahmed thought the English houses were lovely inside, but outside " they are so black and gloomy ". Anyone picturing a large London house on a wet, foggy day, will agree with him. He was much impressed with the fact that no matter how much it rained, the streets were never really dirty. " Their roads are iron " he declares. He never went out except in a car, principally because he did not enjoy being stared at - he probably appreciates now what the white people



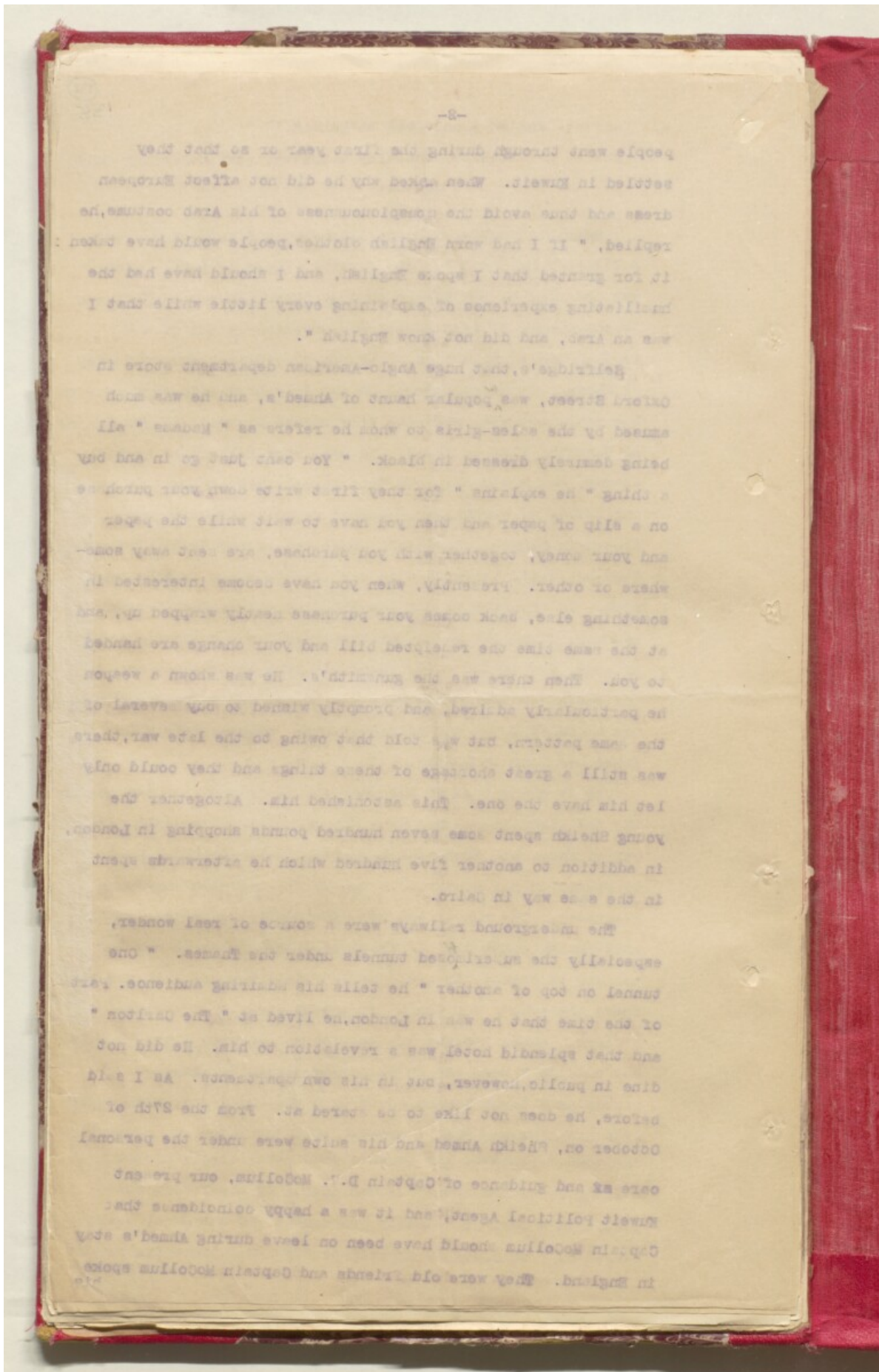


-2-

people went through during the first year or so that they settled in Kuwait. When asked why he did not affect European dress and thus avoid the conspicuousness of his Arab costume, he replied, " If I had worn English clothes, people would have taken it for granted that I spoke English, and I should have had the humiliating experience of explaining every little while that I was an Arab, and did not know English ".

Selfridge's, that huge Anglo-American department store in Oxford Street, was a popular haunt of Ahmed's, and he was much amused by the sales-girls to whom he refers as " Madams " all being demurely dressed in black. " You cant just go in and buy a thing " he explains " for they first write down your purchase on a slip of paper and then you have to wait while the paper and your money, together with you purchase, are sent away somewhere or other. Presently, when you have become interested in something else, back comes your purchase neatly wrapped up, and at the same time the receipted bill and your change are handed to you. Then there was the gunsmith's. He was shown a weapon he particularly admired, and promptly wished to buy several of the same pattern, but was told that owing to the late war, there was still a great shortage of these things and they could only let him have the one. This astonished him. Altogether the young Sheikh spent some seven hundred pounds shopping in London, in addition to another five hundred which he afterwards spent in the same way in Cairo.

The underground railways were a source of real wonder, especially the superimposed tunnels under the Thames. " One tunnel on top of another " he tells his admiring audience. Part of the time that he was in London, he lived at " The Carlton " and that splendid hotel was a revelation to him. He did not dine in public, however, but in his own apartments. As I said before, he does not like to be stared at. From the 27th of October on, Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were under the personal care and guidance of Captain D.V. McCollum, our present Kuwait Political Agent, and it was a happy coincidence that Captain McCollum should have been on leave during Ahmed's stay in England. They were old friends and Captain McCollum spoke his





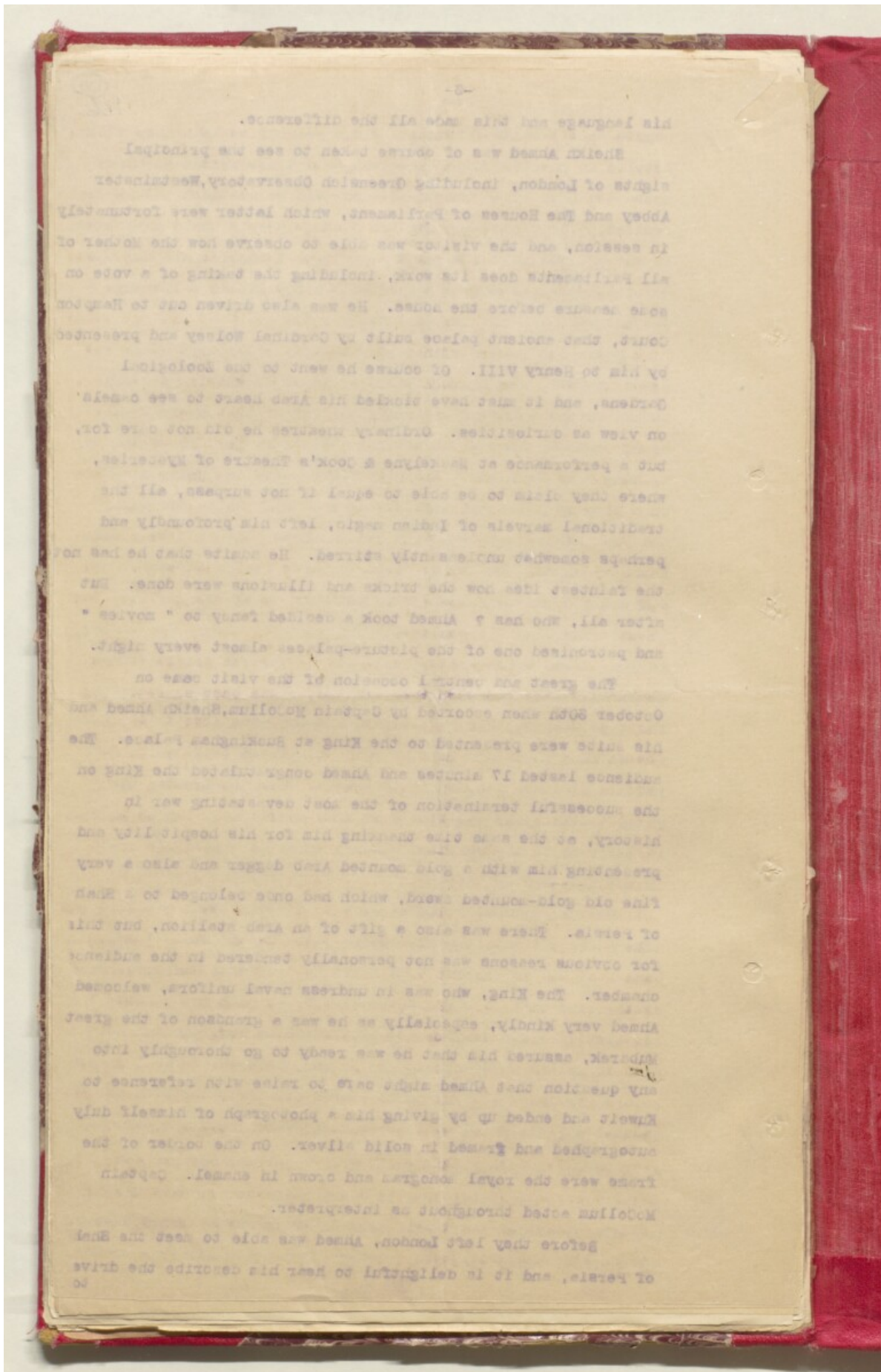
-3-

his language and this made all the difference.

Sheikh Ahmed was of course taken to see the principal sights of London, including Greenwich Observatory, Westminster Abbey and The Houses of Parliament, which latter were fortunately in session, and the visitor was able to observe how the Mother of all Parliaments does its work, including the taking of a vote on some measure before the house. He was also driven out to Hampton Court, that ancient palace built by Cardinal Wolsey and presented by him to Henry VIII. Of course he went to the Zoological gardens, and it must have tickled his Arab heart to see camels on view as curiosities. Ordinary theatres he did not care for, but a performance at Maskelyne & Cook's Theatre of Mysteries, where they claim to be able to equal if not surpass, all the traditional marvels of Indian magic, left him profoundly and perhaps somewhat unpleasantly stirred. He admits that he has not the faintest idea how the tricks and illusions were done. But after all, who has? Ahmed took a decided fancy to "movies" and patronised one of the picture-palaces almost every night.

The great and central occasion of the visit came on October 30th when escorted by Captain McCollum, Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were presented to the King at Buckingham Palace. The audience lasted 17 minutes and Ahmed congratulated the King on the successful termination of the most devastating war in history, at the same time thanking him for his hospitality and presenting him with a gold mounted Arab dagger and also a very fine old gold-mounted sword, which had once belonged to a Shah of Persia. There was also a gift of an Arab stallion, but this for obvious reasons was not personally tendered in the audience chamber. The King, who was in undress naval uniform, welcomed Ahmed very kindly, especially as he was a grandson of the great Mubarek, assured him that he was ready to go thoroughly into any question that Ahmed might care to raise with reference to Kuwait and ended up by giving him a photograph of himself duly autographed and framed in solid silver. On the border of the frame were the royal monogram and crown in enamel. Captain McCollum acted throughout as interpreter.

Before they left London, Ahmed was able to meet the Shah of Persia, and it is delightful to hear him describe the drive to





-4-

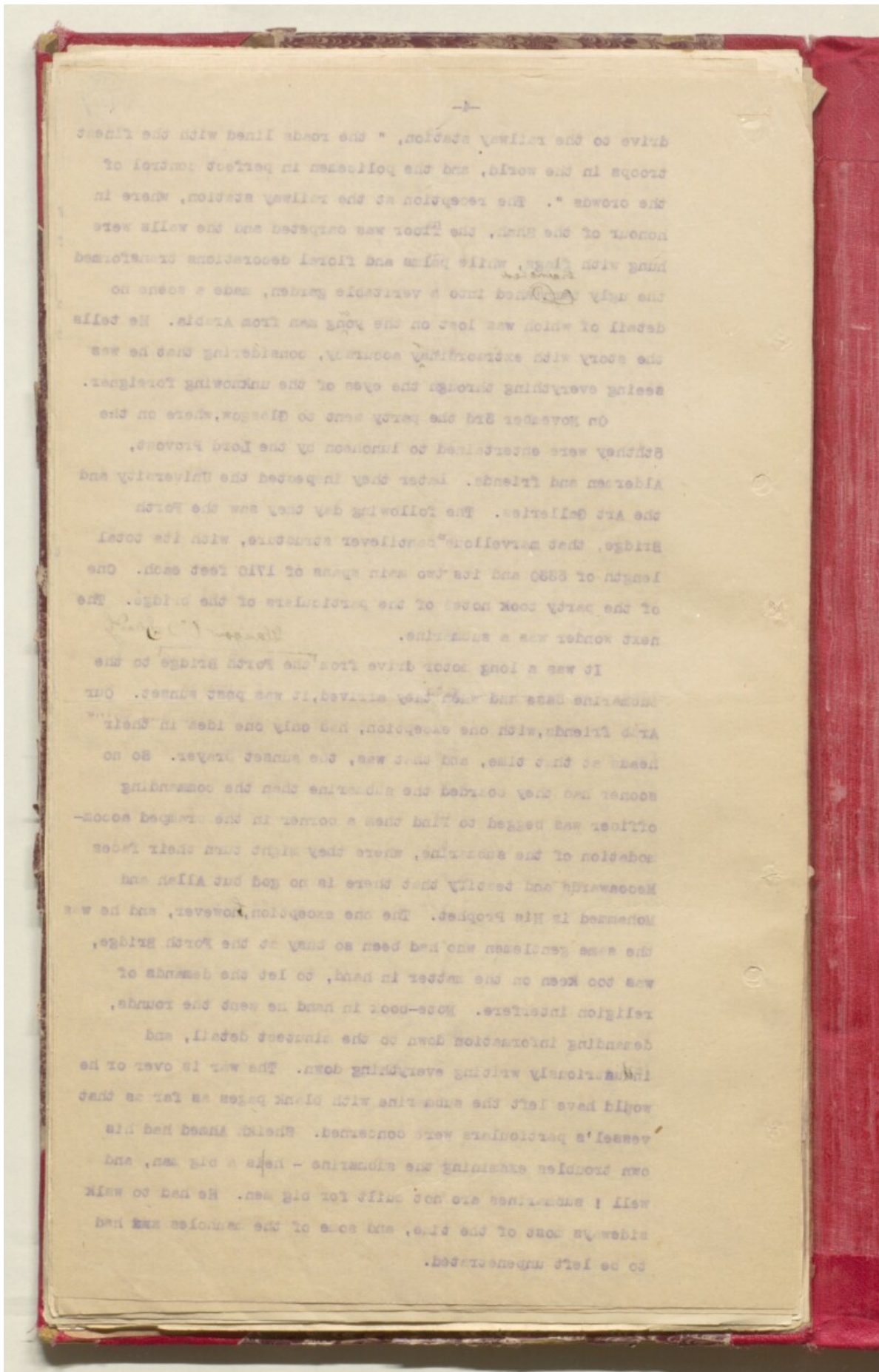
137

drive to the railway station, " the roads lined with the finest troops in the world, and the policemen in perfect control of the crowds ". The reception at the railway station, where in honour of the Shah, the floor was carpeted and the walls were hung with flags, while palms and floral decorations transformed the ugly ~~transferred~~ ^{transferred} into a veritable garden, made a scene no detail of which was lost on the young man from Arabia. He tells the story with extraordinary accuracy, considering that he was seeing everything through the eyes of the unknowing foreigner.

On November 3rd the party went to Glasgow, where on the 5th they were entertained to luncheon by the Lord Provost, Aldermen and friends. Later they inspected the University and the Art Galleries. The following day they saw the Forth Bridge, that marvellous cantilever structure, with its total length of 5330 and its two main spans of 1710 feet each. One of the party took notes of the particulars of the bridge. The next wonder was a submarine.

Glasgow (?) Lord

It was a long motor drive from the Forth Bridge to the submarine base and when they arrived, it was past sunset. Our Arab friends, with one exception, had only one idea in their heads at that time, and that was, the sunset prayer. So no sooner had they boarded the submarine than the commanding officer was begged to find them a corner in the cramped accommodation of the submarine, where they might turn their faces Meccawards and testify that there is no god but Allah and Mohammed is His Prophet. The one exception, however, and he was the same gentleman who had been so busy at the Forth Bridge, was too keen on the matter in hand, to let the demands of religion interfere. Note-book in hand he went the rounds, demanding information down to the minutest detail, and industriously writing everything down. The war is over or he would have left the submarine with blank pages as far as that vessel's particulars were concerned. Sheikh Ahmed had his own troubles examining the submarine - he is a big man, and well ! submarines are not built for big men. He had to walk sideways most of the time, and some of the manholes had to be left unpenetrated.





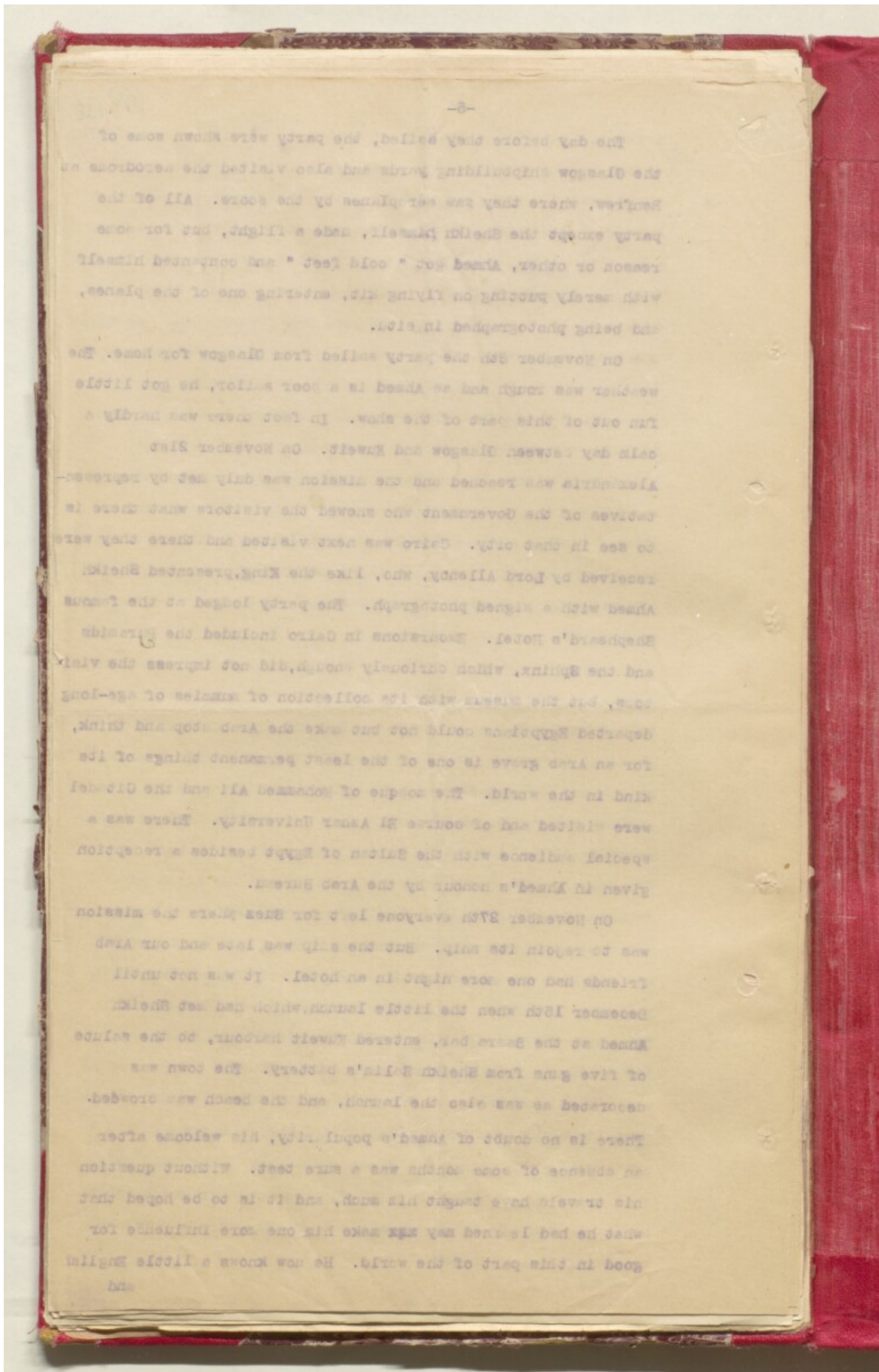
-5-

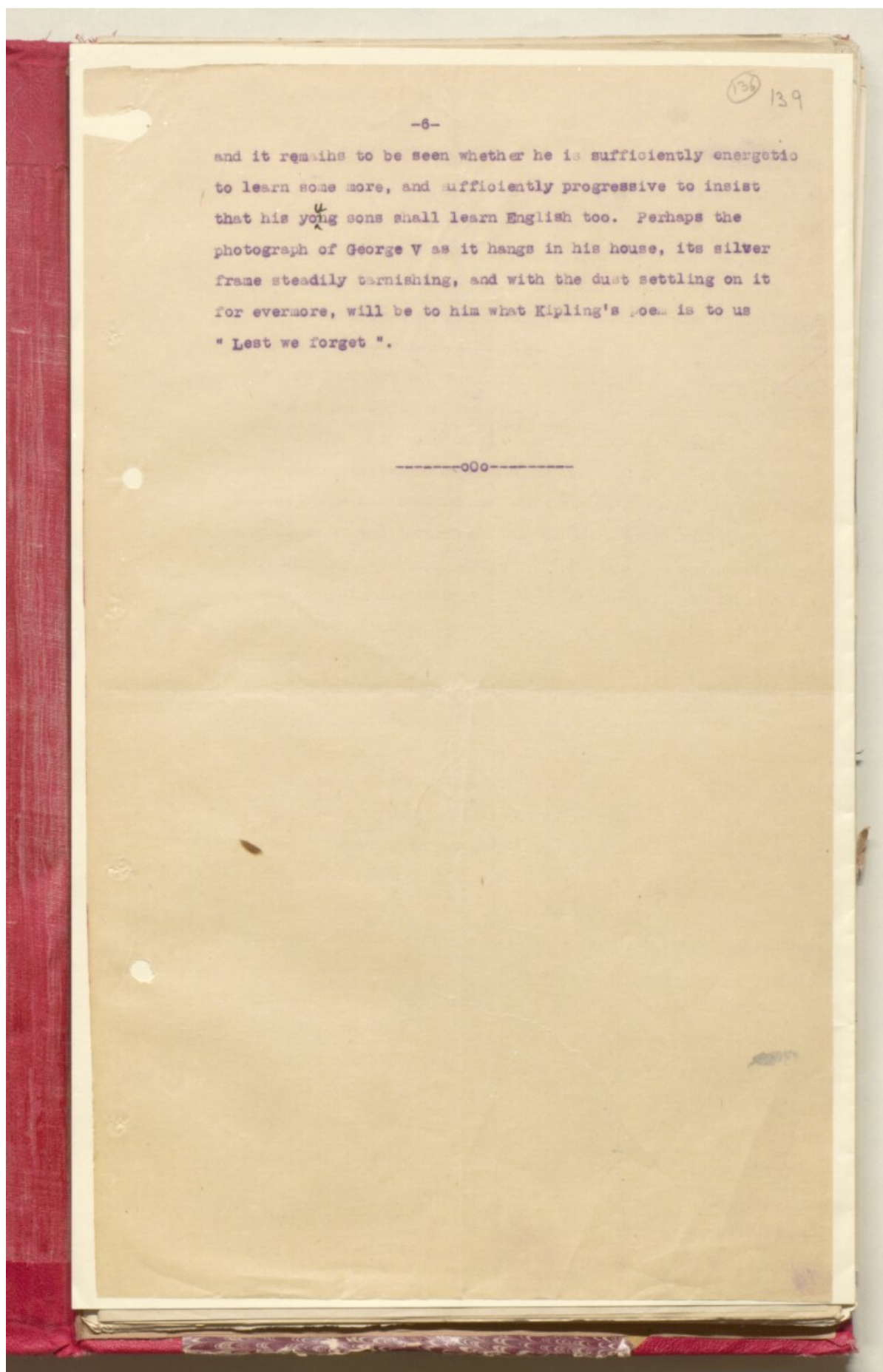
135 138

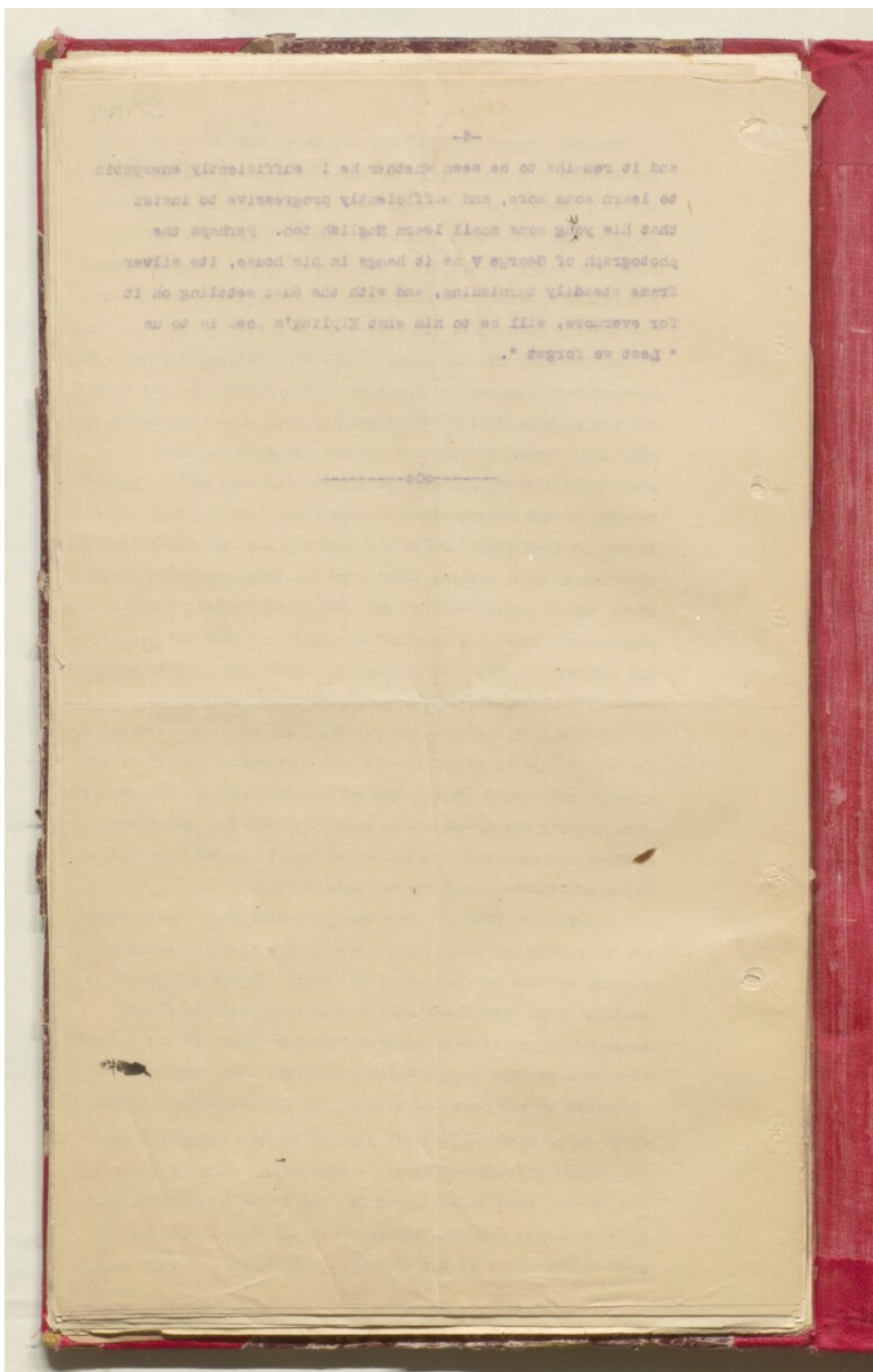
The day before they sailed, the party were shown some of the Glasgow shipbuilding yards and also visited the aerodrome at Renfrew, where they saw aeroplanes by the score. All of the party except the Sheikh himself, made a flight, but for some reason or other, Ahmed got " cold feet " and contented himself with merely putting on flying kit, entering one of the planes, and being photographed in situ.

On November 8th the party sailed from Glasgow for home. The weather was rough and as Ahmed is a poor sailor, he got little fun out of this part of the show. In fact there was hardly a calm day between Glasgow and Kuwait. On November 21st Alexandria was reached and the mission was duly met by representatives of the Government who showed the visitors what there is to see in that city. - Cairo was next visited and there they were received by Lord Allenby, who, like the King, presented Sheikh Ahmed with a signed photograph. The party lodged at the famous Shepherd's Hotel. Excursions in Cairo included the Pyramids and the Sphinx, which curiously enough, did not impress the visitors, but the museum with its collection of mummies of age-long departed Egyptians could not but make the Arab stop and think, for an Arab grave is one of the least permanent things of its kind in the world. The mosque of Mohammed Ali and the Citadel were visited and of course El Azhar University. There was a special audience with the Sultan of Egypt besides a reception given in Ahmed's honour by the Arab Bureau.

On November 27th everyone left for Suez where the mission was to rejoin its ship. But the ship was late and our Arab friends had one more night in an hotel. It was not until December 15th when the little launch, which had met Sheikh Ahmed at the Basra bar, entered Kuwait harbour, to the salute of five guns from Sheikh Salim's battery. The town was decorated as was also the launch, and the beach was crowded. There is no doubt of Ahmed's popularity, his welcome after an absence of some months was a sure test. Without question his travels have taught him much, and it is to be hoped that what he had learned may ~~may~~ make him one more influence for good in this part of the world. He now knows a little English and









53/32

(137) 140

C A M P No.1.

Dated the 2nd October 1920.

To.

The Officer Commanding,
Mesopotamian Wing R.A.F.,

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Memo No. 910
Date 5-10-20.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Memorandum.

I shall be much obliged if you can arrange for a photographic plan of the town of Kuwait to be taken in the near future, two copies to be sent to Political Agent, Kuwait, and one to Bushire. The survey Dept will be asked in due course to prepare the usual plan from the photographic survey.

[Signature] Lt.Colonel.
Civil Commissioner,

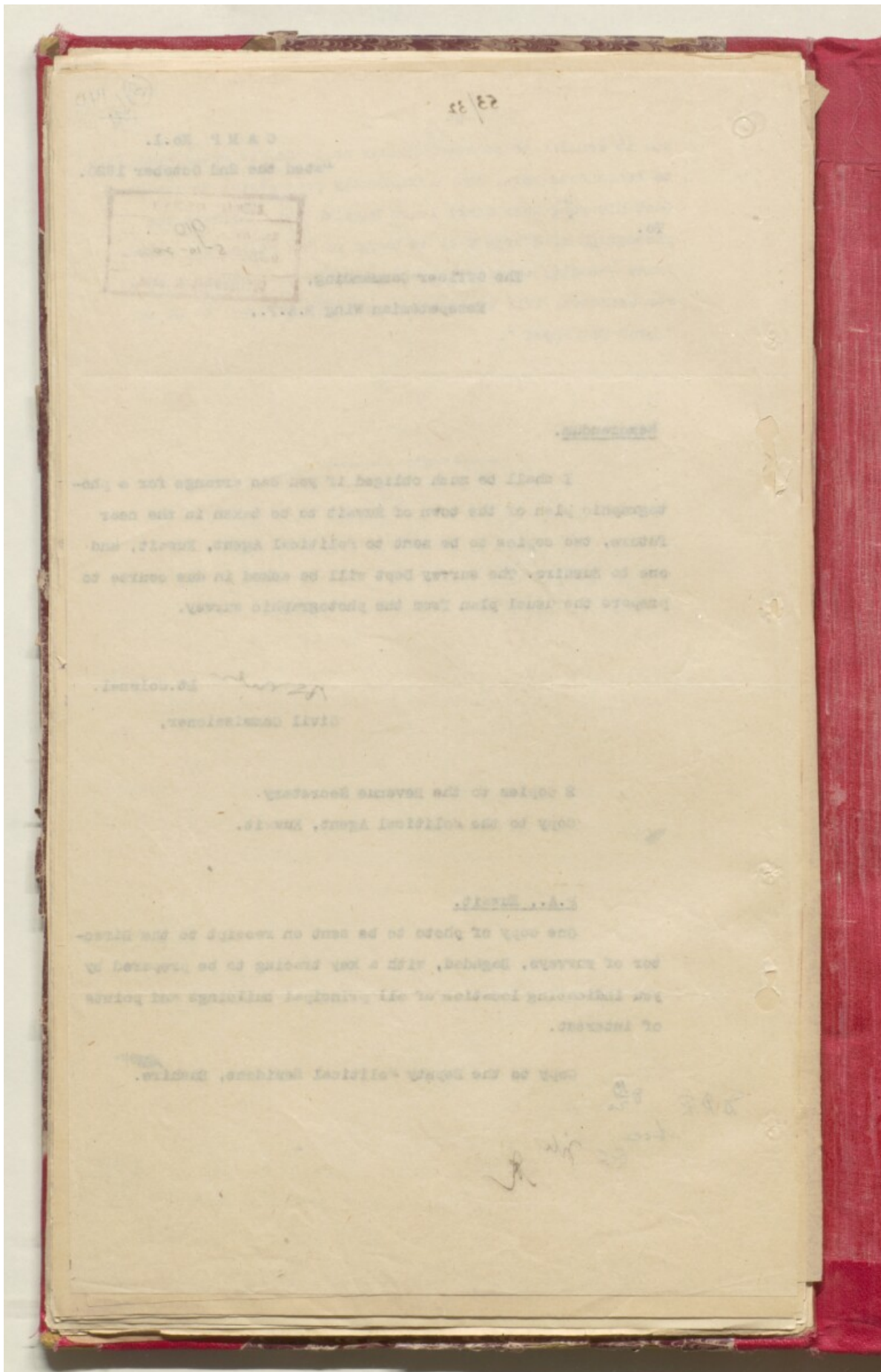
2 Copies to the Revenue Secretary.
Copy to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

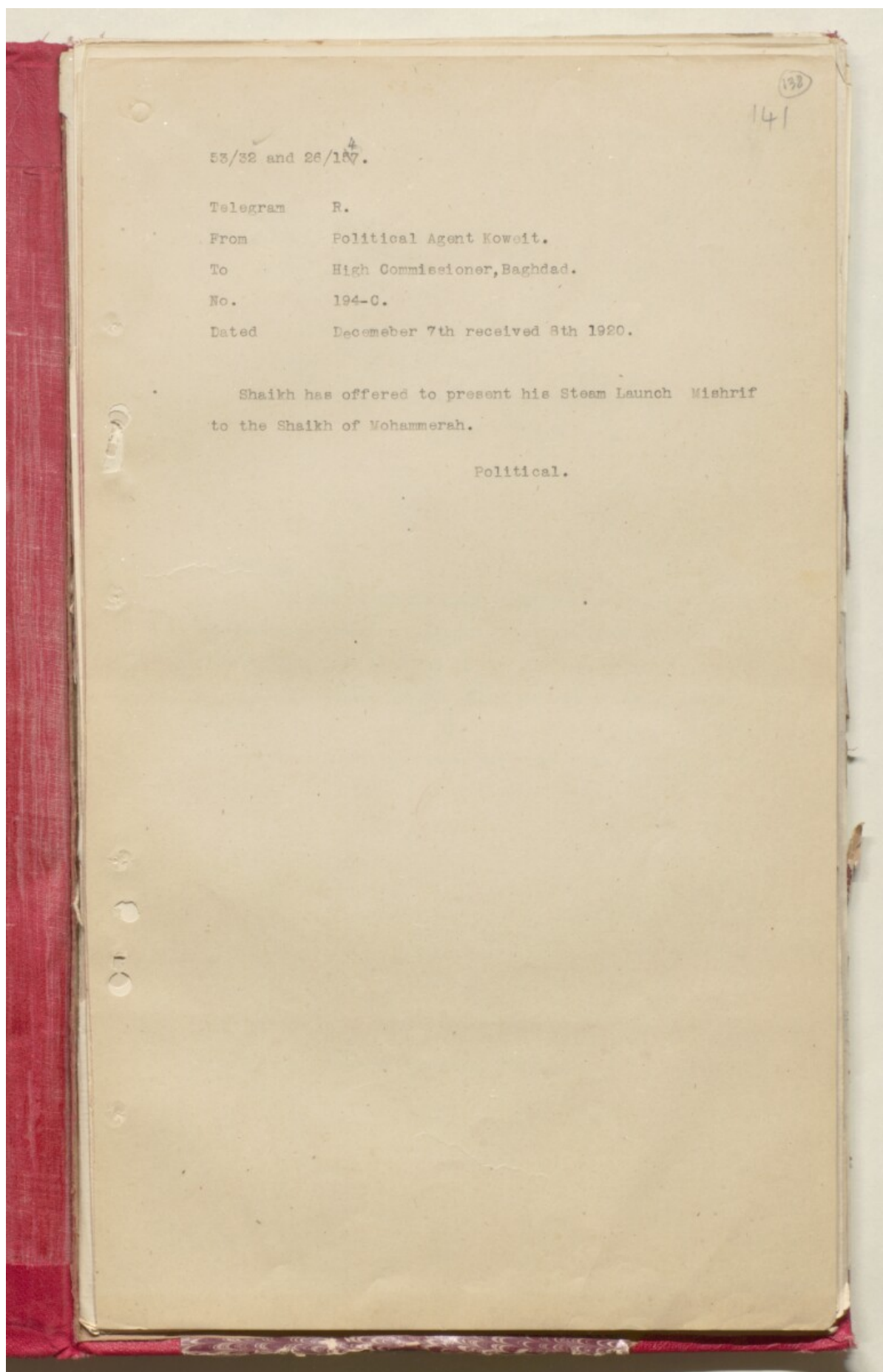
P.A., Kuwait.

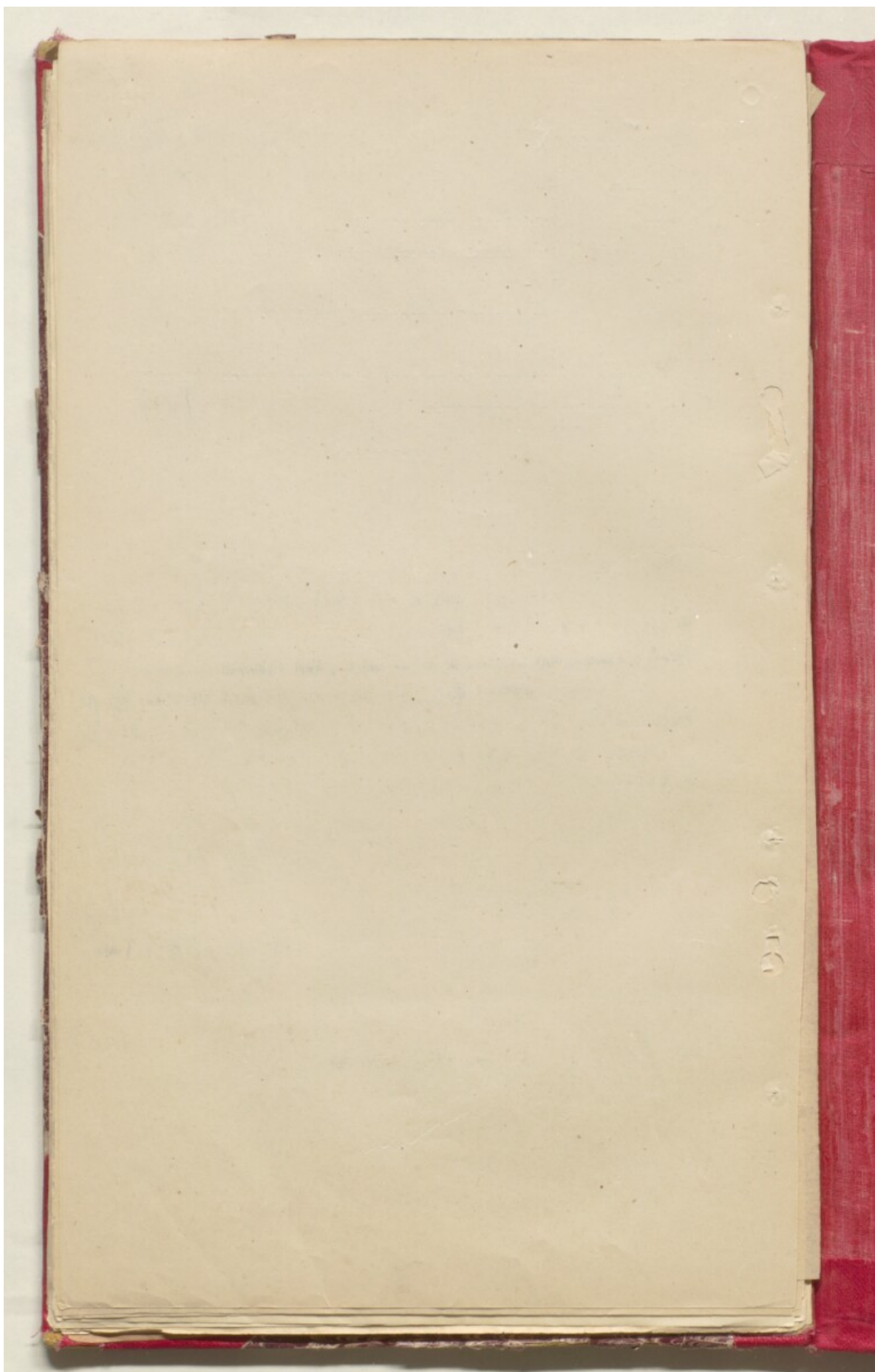
one copy of photo to be sent on receipt to the Director of surveys, Baghdad, with a key tracing to be prepared by you indicating location of all principal buildings and points of interest.

Copy to the Deputy Political Resident, Bushire.

D.P.R. 8th
see
OK file
[Signature]









CONFIDENTIAL

No. 65-G. Political Agency, Kuwait.

16th April 1921.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.

Doc No. 262

Date 2.5.21

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

142
(139)
cy
30/24

To

The Political Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner,
BAGHDAD.

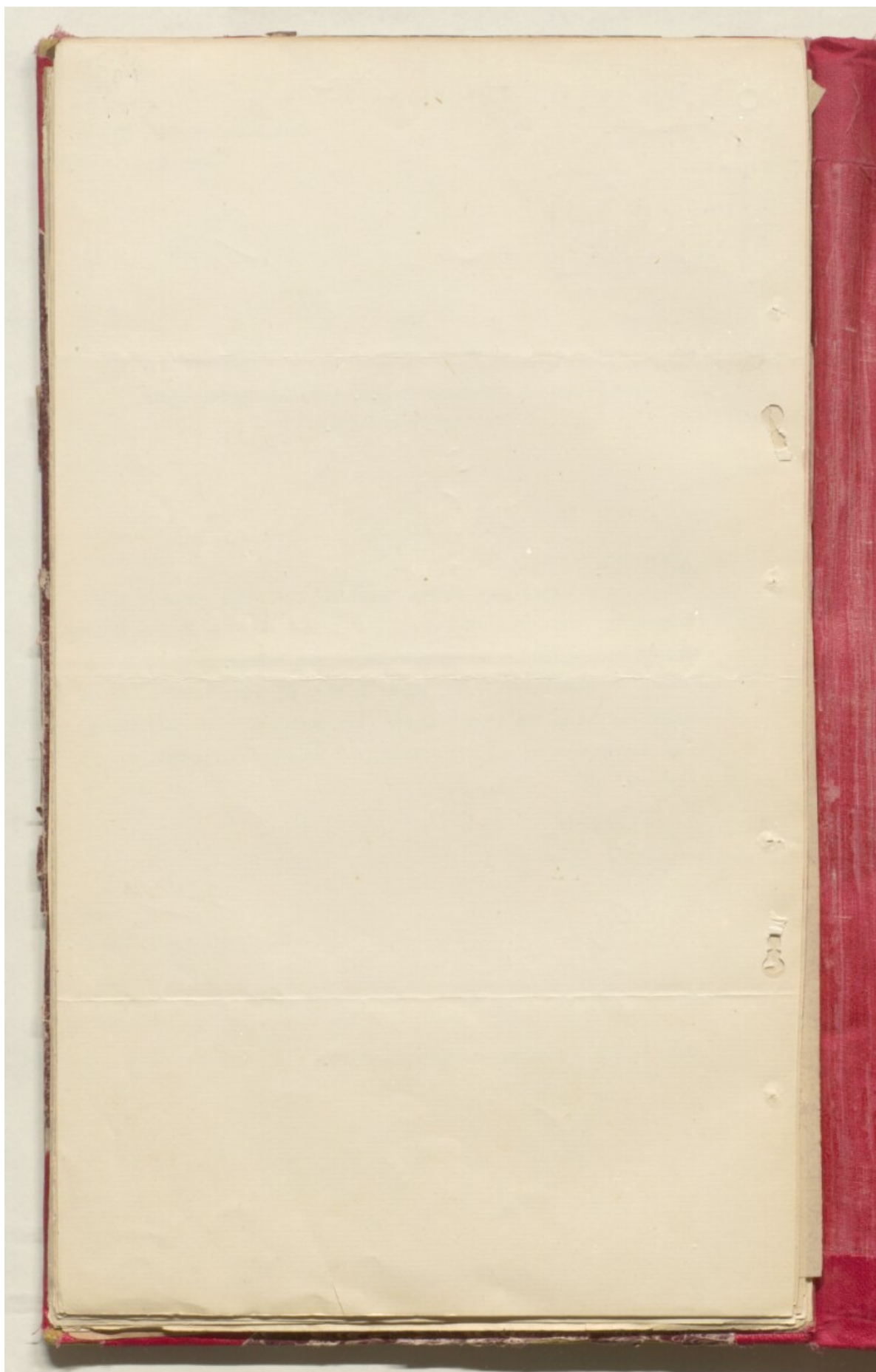
MEMORANDUM

I notice that Shaikh Ahmad has added the words of the Muhammadan Profession of Faith (لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله) to the Kuwait Flag which he flies in front of his Palace.

This inscription, which is also in white letters, is at right angles to the word "Kuwait", and parallel to and adjoining the border next to the flag-staff, and reads from the bottom upwards.

J.C. Mora
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy to the Political Resident, Bushire.





53/32

143
(140)

Telegram R.

From High Commissioner, Baghdad.

To Political, Kuwait

Repeated Rushire

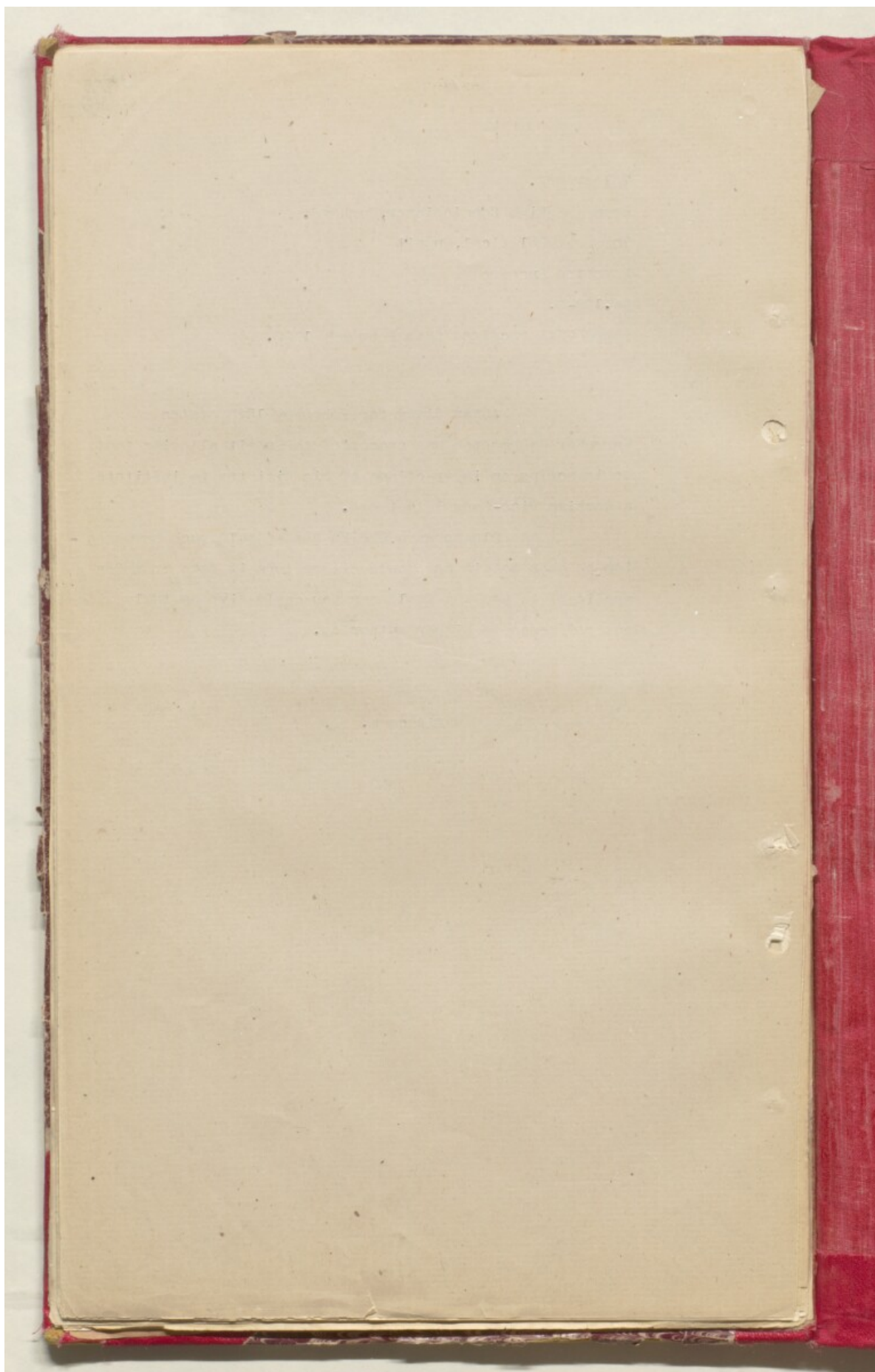
No.109-S.

Dated 25th received 26th February 1932.

Ahwaz diary for February 15th states
Karguzar Mohammerah has proceeded to Kuwait alleging that
he is acting on instructions of his Minister to institute
a Persian Vice-Consulate there.

Please warn Sheikh that should such a suggest-
ion be made to him he should either turn it down or refer
applicant to you who would say you could give no reply with-
out reference to higher authority.

Highcoma.





53/32.

144
(141)

Telegram R.

From Political, Kuwait.

To High Commissioner, Baghdad.

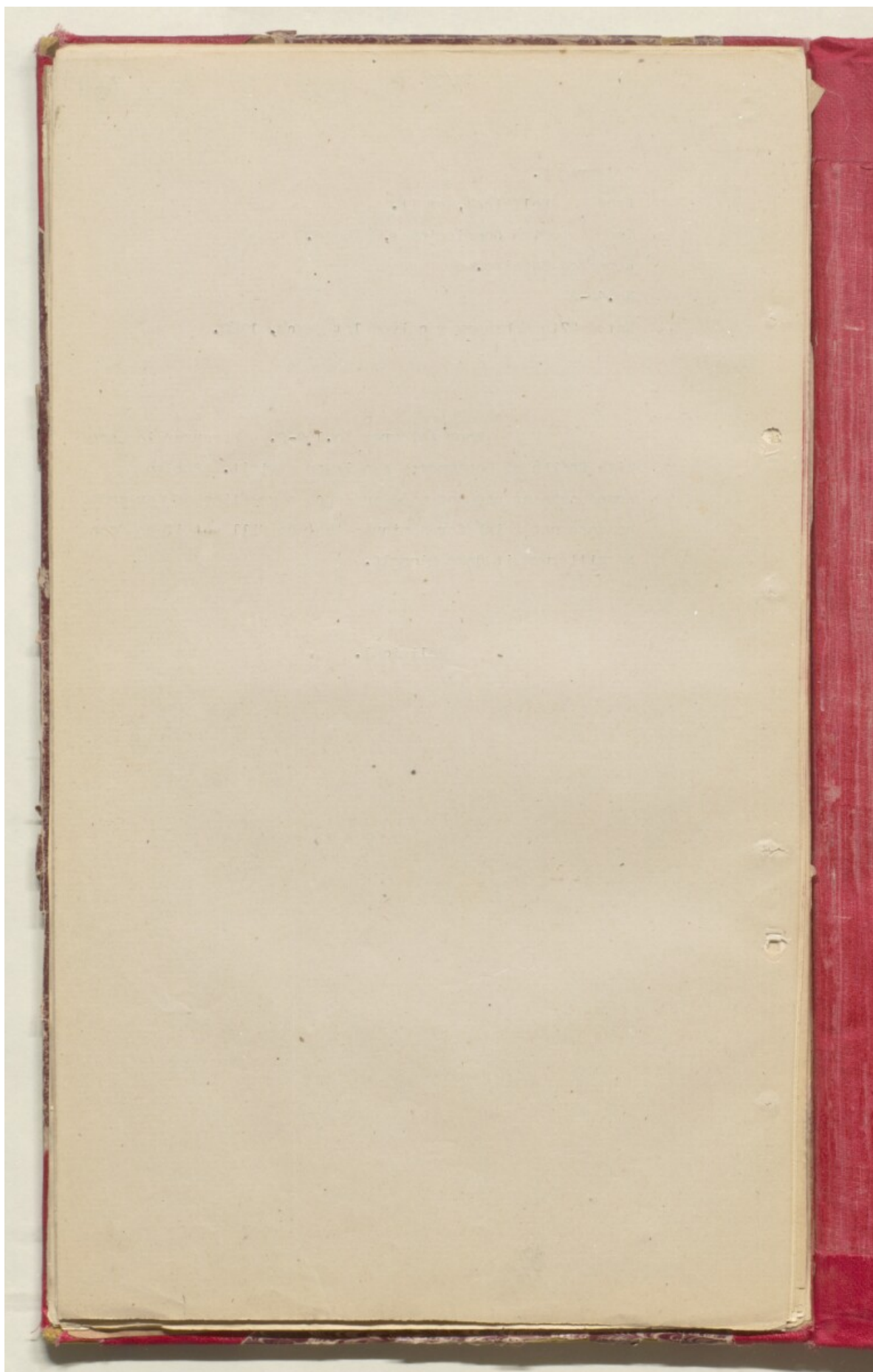
Repeated Bushire.

No. 40-S

Dated 27th February received 1st March, 1922.

Your telegram No. 109-S. Karguzar is here with Sheikh of Mohammerah who is on a visit. Sheikh Ahmed says he had not made any such suggestion so far and he does not think for a minute that he will ~~not~~ if he does he will turn it down himself.

Political.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 121-S.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

1st August 1922.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Ref. No. 775
Date 4-8-22
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

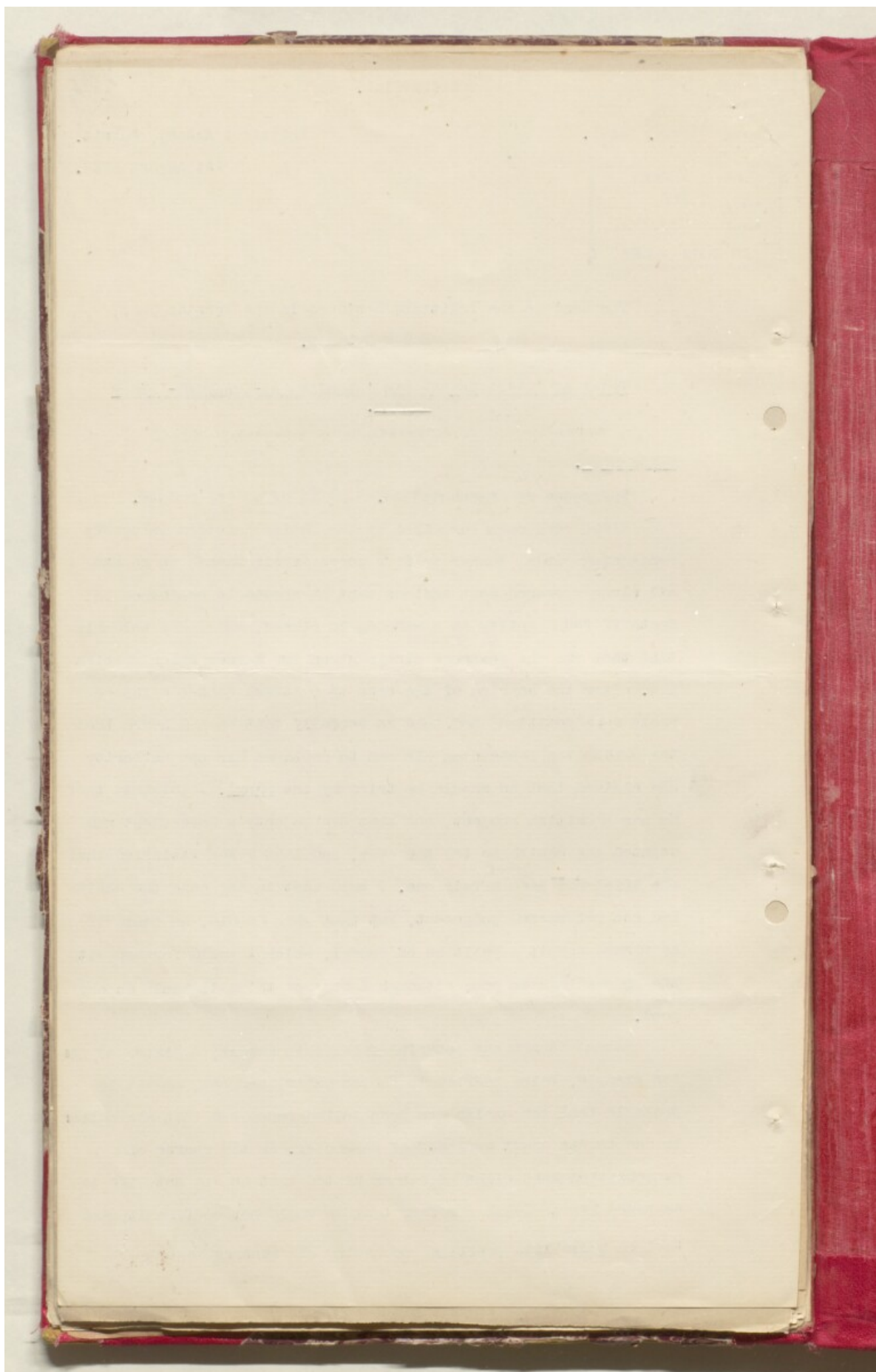
Trial of 'Abdul Wahhab bin 'Abdullah al-Yusuf al-'Abdur
Razzaq.

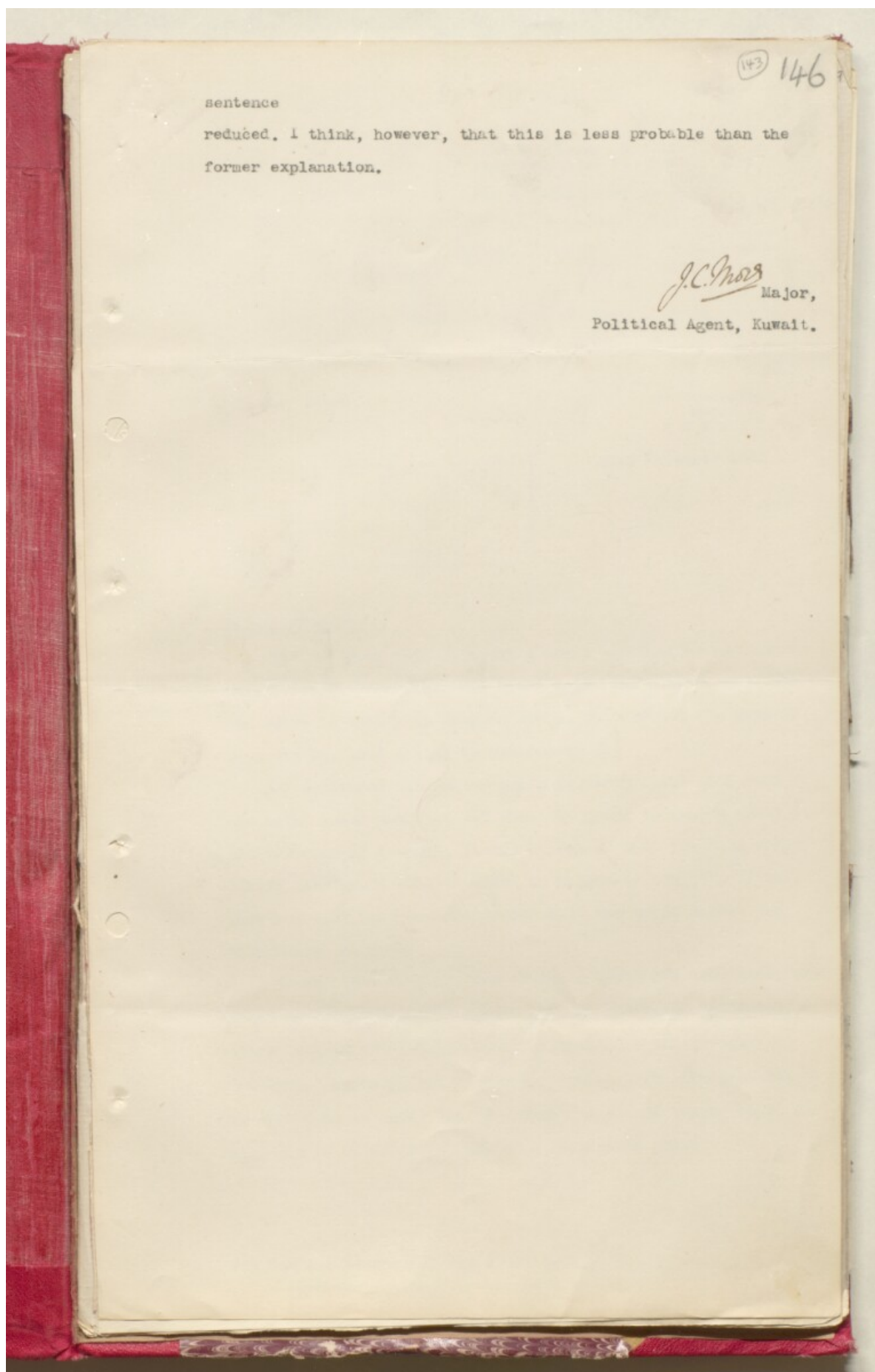
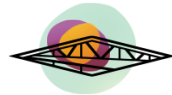
MEMORANDUM.

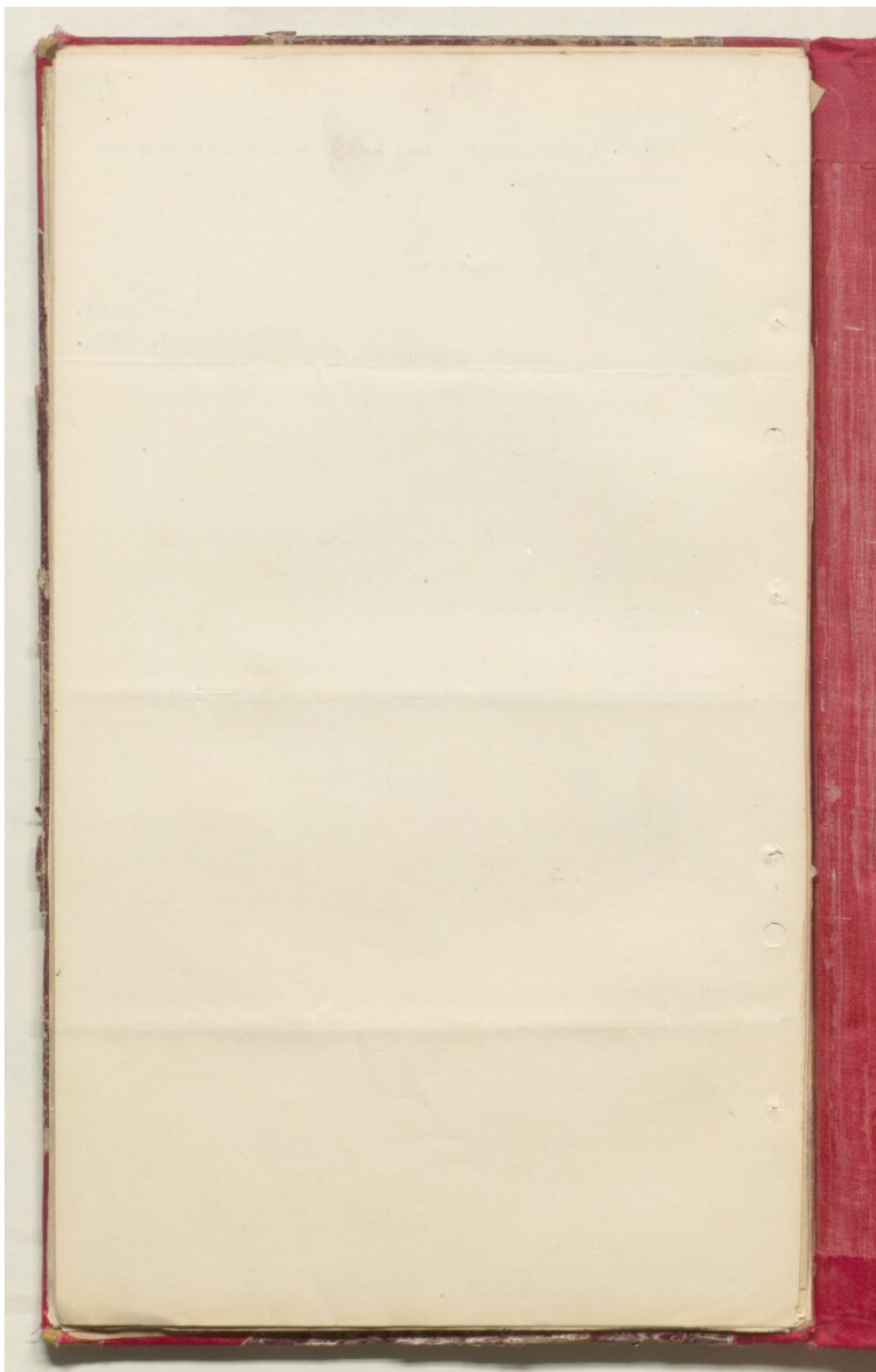
Reference my memorandum No. 541/9/11 of to-day's date.

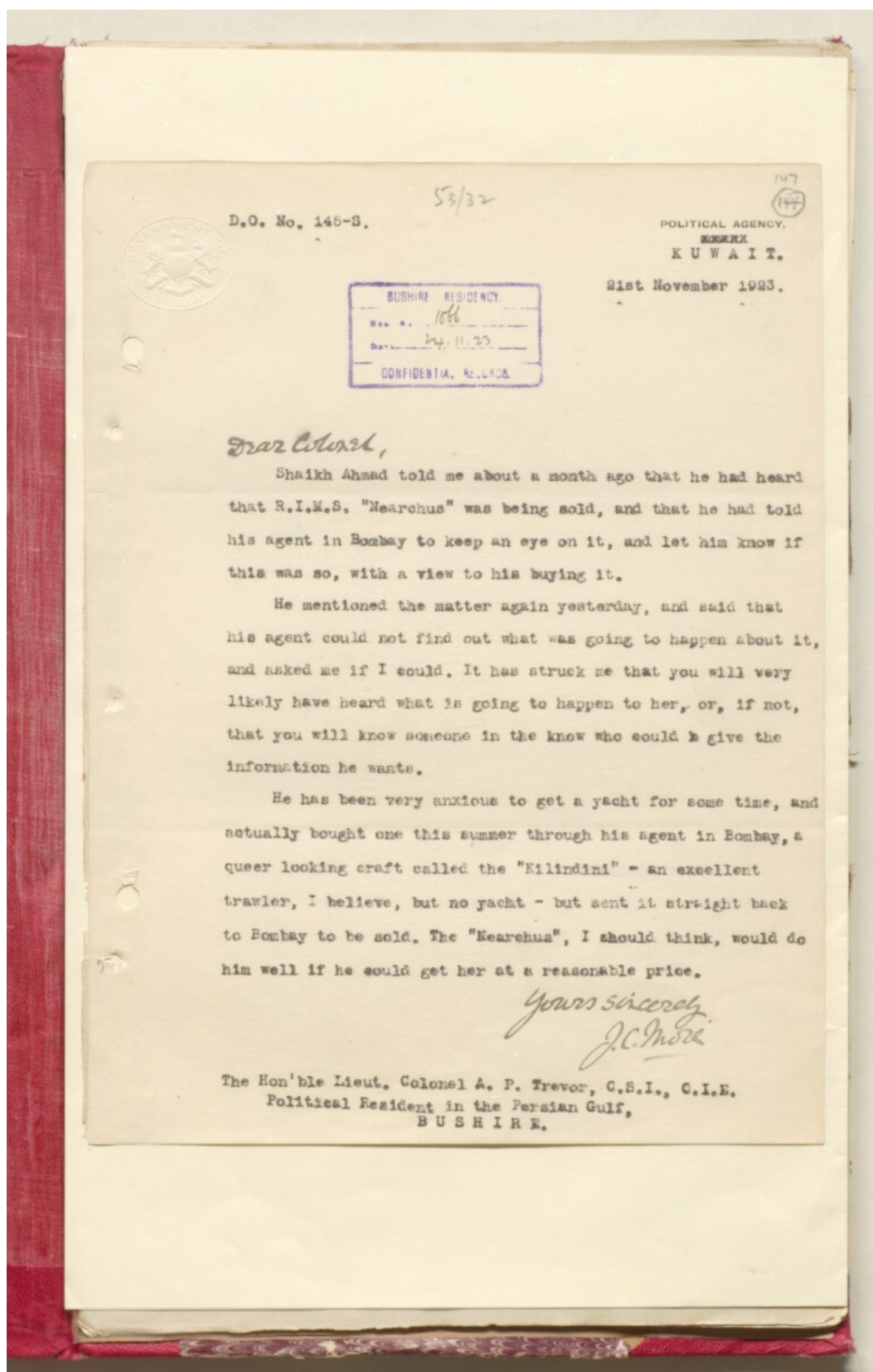
I was very much surprised at the Shaikh's action in merely sentencing 'Abdul Wahhab to five years imprisonment, as he had all along appeared most anxious that he should be condemned to death if found guilty as a warning to others, and I had told him that that was the sentence always given for murder under British law. After the hearing of the case too, 'Abdul Wahhab's father wrote me a petition, and told me verbally that he had heard that the Shaikh was sentencing his son to death on his own authority and claimed that he should be tried by the shar'. I told him that he was a British subject, and that His Majesty's Government had deputed the Shaikh to try the case, and that I was satisfied that the trial had been a fair one. I said that in any case the Shaikh had not yet passed judgement, but that when he did, he could if he wished submit a petition of appeal, which I would forward with the proceedings to you, although I did not think it would do any good.

'Abdul Wahhab has powerful friends in Kuwait, a sister of his, for example, being married to Shaikh Jabir as-Subah, and it is probable that the Shaikh has been talked round and that his action is due to his usual weakness of character. In the course of conversation last night he rather hinted that he did not like to sentence him to death for fear that we would not confirm it, and that he would lose prestige by having his ~~sentence~~ sentence.









D.O. No. 145-S.

53/32

147
144

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT.

21st November 1923.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
No. 1866
Date 24.11.23
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Dear Colonel,

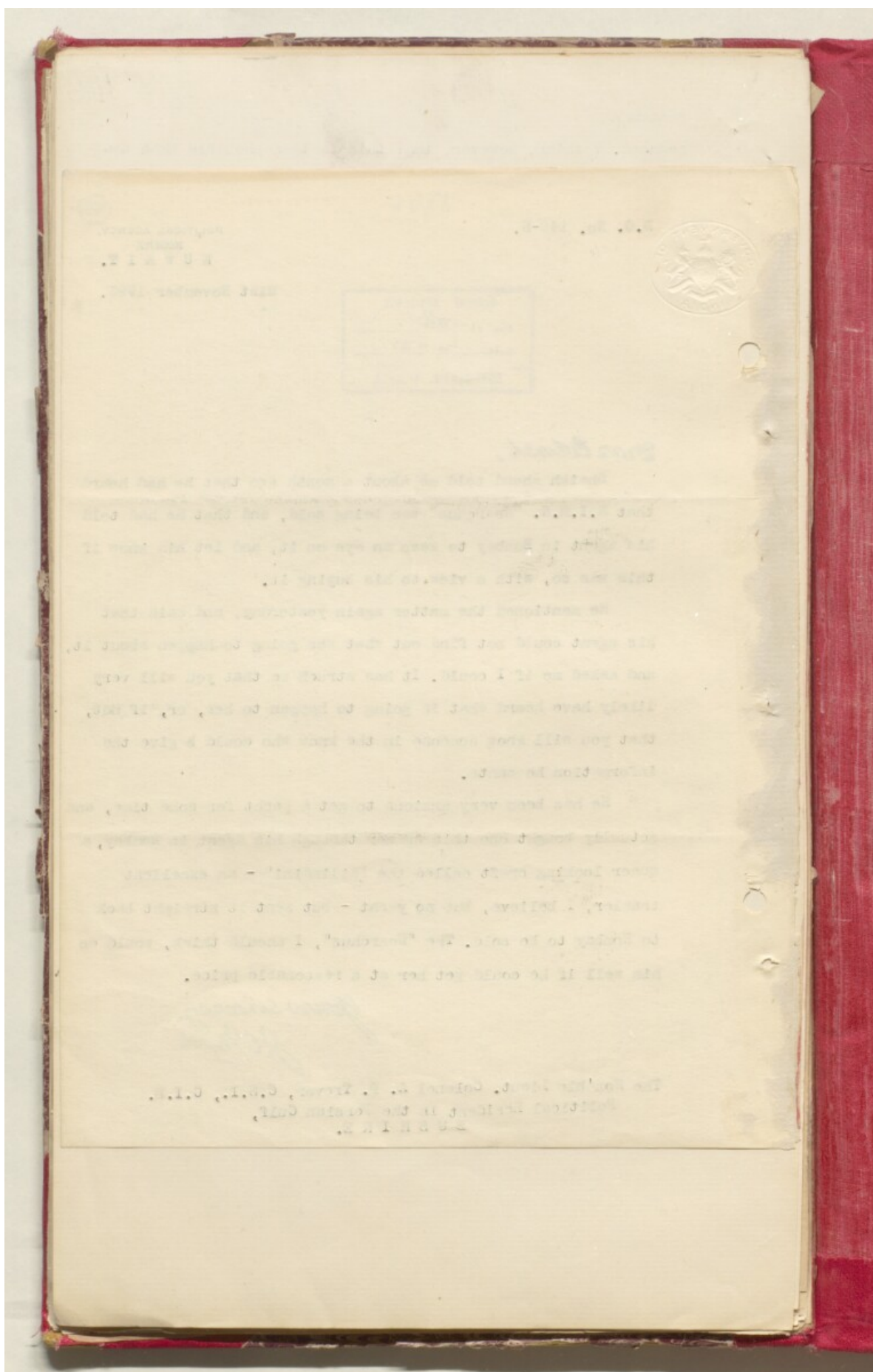
Shaikh Ahmad told me about a month ago that he had heard that R.I.M.S. "Nearehus" was being sold, and that he had told his agent in Bombay to keep an eye on it, and let him know if this was so, with a view to his buying it.

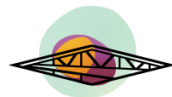
He mentioned the matter again yesterday, and said that his agent could not find out what was going to happen about it, and asked me if I could. It has struck me that you will very likely have heard what is going to happen to her, or, if not, that you will know someone in the know who could give the information he wants.

He has been very anxious to get a yacht for some time, and actually bought one this summer through his agent in Bombay, a queer looking craft called the "Kilindini" - an excellent trawler, I believe, but no yacht - but sent it straight back to Bombay to be sold. The "Nearehus", I should think, would do him well if he could get her at a reasonable price.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

The Hon'ble Lieut. Colonel A. P. Trevor, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
BUSHIRE.





D.O. No. 669 -S. 53/32

148
(145)

(address) The Residency, Bushire,
c/o The Presidency Postmaster,
Bombay,
FOR SPECIAL CONSULAR BAG.

24th November 1923.

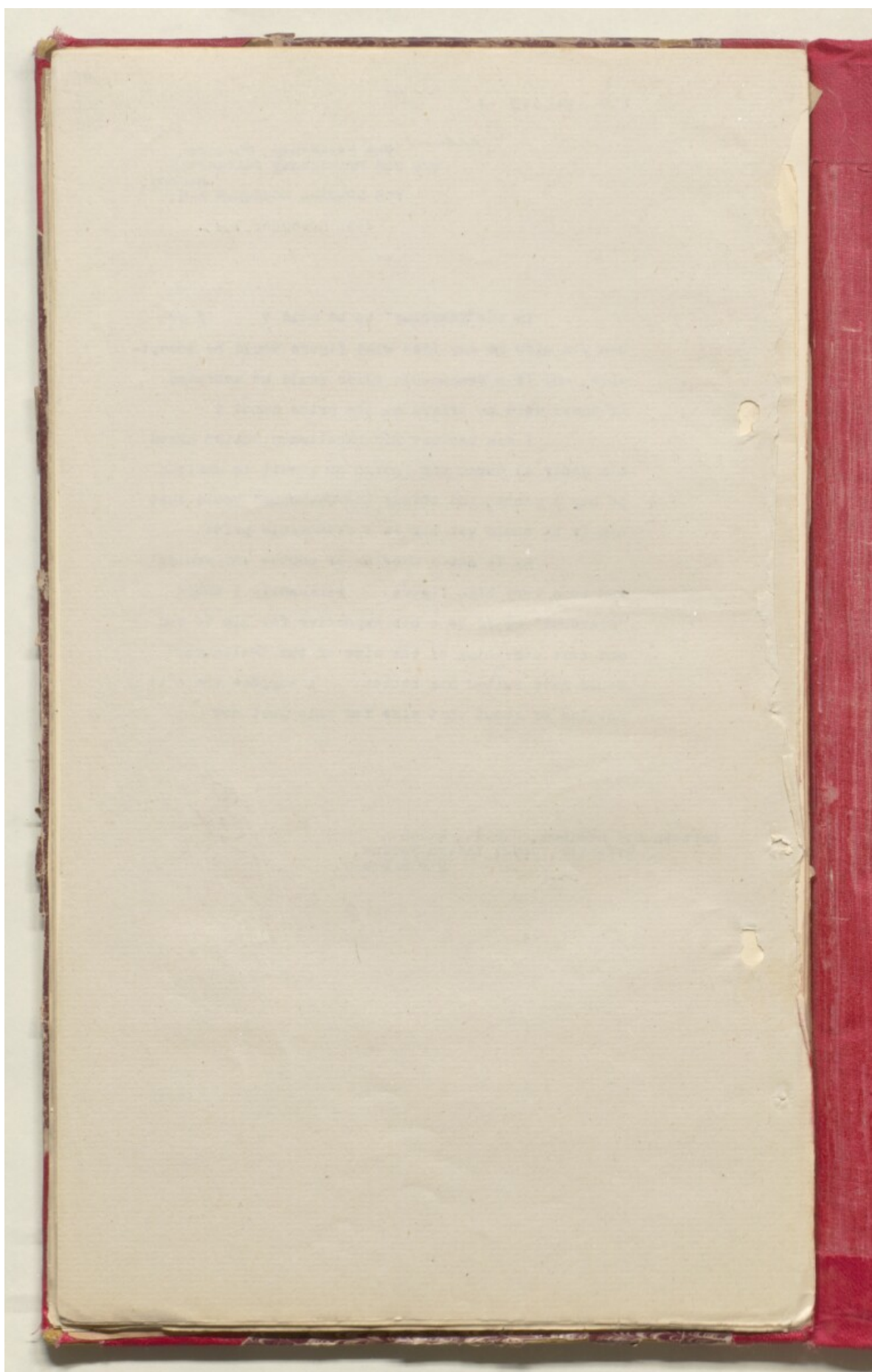
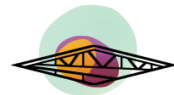
Is the "Nearchus" to be sold ? If so
can you give me any idea what figure would be accept-
able, and if a reasonable offer would be accepted
if there were no offers at the price named ?

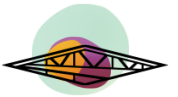
I ask because His Excellency Shaikh Ahmed
bin Jabir al Subah the Shaikh of Kuwait is anxious
to buy a yacht, and thinks the "Nearchus" would suit
him if he could get her at a reasonable price.

He is not a Croesus of course and wouldn't
run to a very high figure. Personally I think
"Nearchus" would be a bit expensive for him to run
and that something of the size of the "Palinurus"
would have suited him better. I suppose there is
nothing of about that size for sale just now.

Captain E.J. Headlam, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Director, Royal Indian Marine,
Bombay.

25/4





53/32
D.C. No. 676 -S. (146)

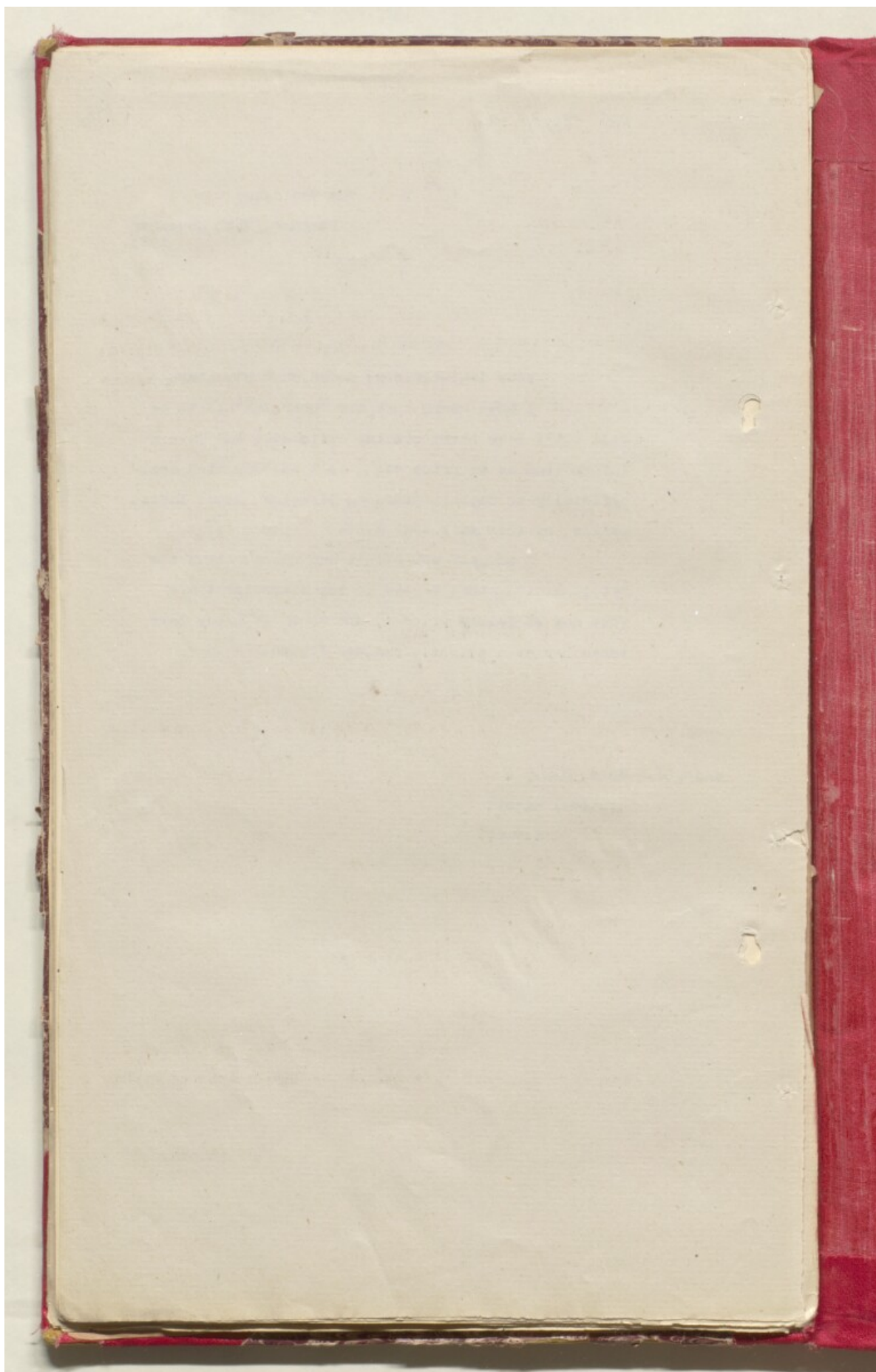
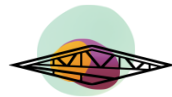
The Residency,
Bushire, 26th November
1925.

Your demi-official dated 21st November.

I have heard that the "Nearchus" is to be sold but I have heard nothing officially and have no information as to price etc., so I have written demi-officially to Captain Readlam, Director, Royal Indian Marine, by this mail asking him.

I suppose you didn't ask Muscat about the "Killindini"; they wanted to buy a trawler there (but not at Bombay price!) and would probably have taken her at a slightly reduced figure.

Major J.C. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent,
Kuwait.





53/32

(147)

Telegram R.
From Political, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire.
No. 157-S.
Dated 15th received 16th December 1923.

Sabih Bey, who is Minister of Public Works, Iraq, informs me that he intends to put forward proposal to run railway to Kuwait and sees no difficulties except possibly those relating to Customs.

Political.

Telegram R.
From Resident, Bushire.
To Political, Kuwait.
No. 1158.
Dated 16th December 1923.

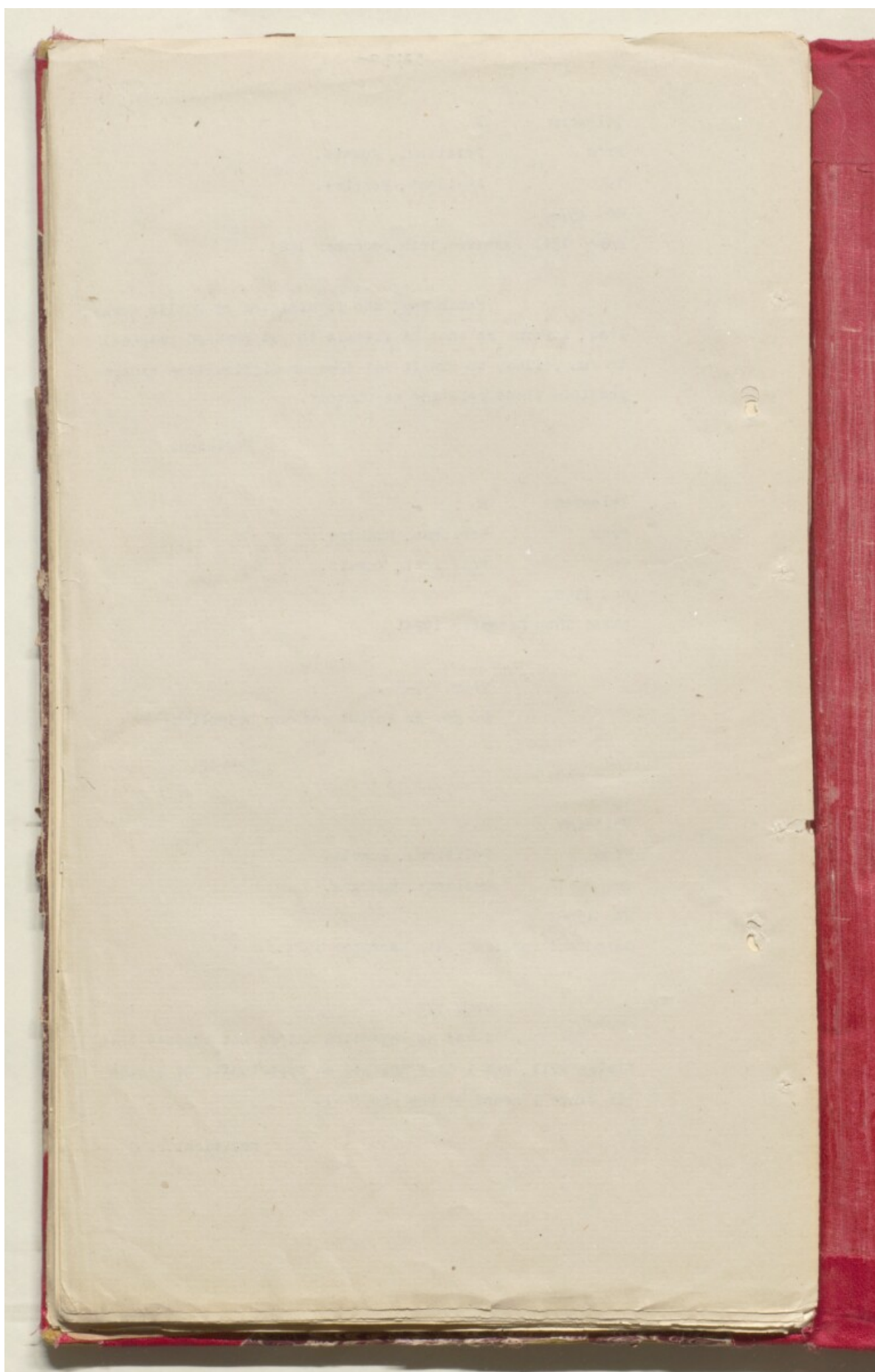
Your 157-S .
Do you or Shaikh see any objections ?

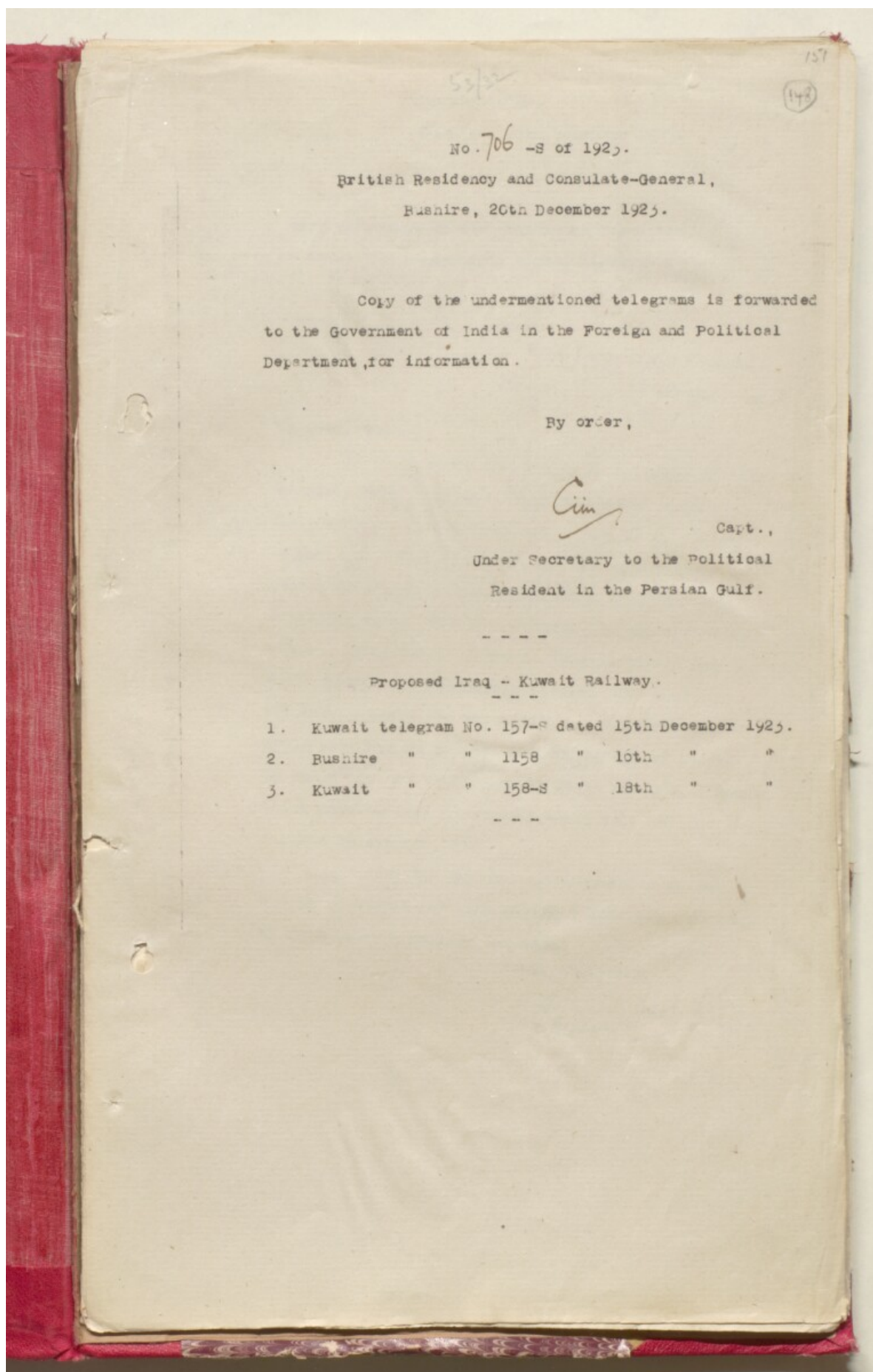
Trevor.

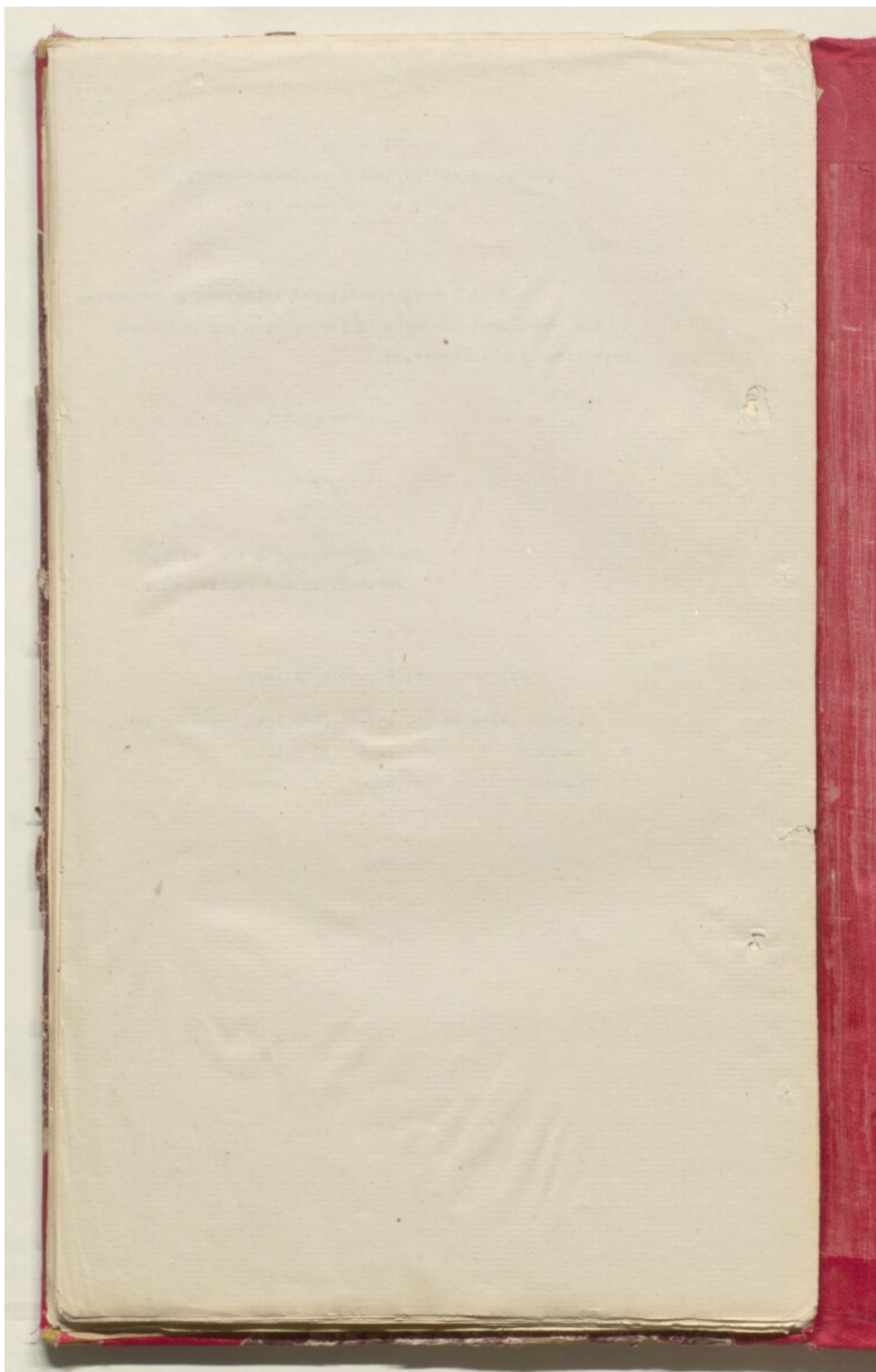
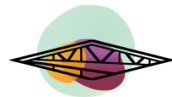
Telegram R.
From Political, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire.
No. 158-S.
Dated and received 18th December 1923.

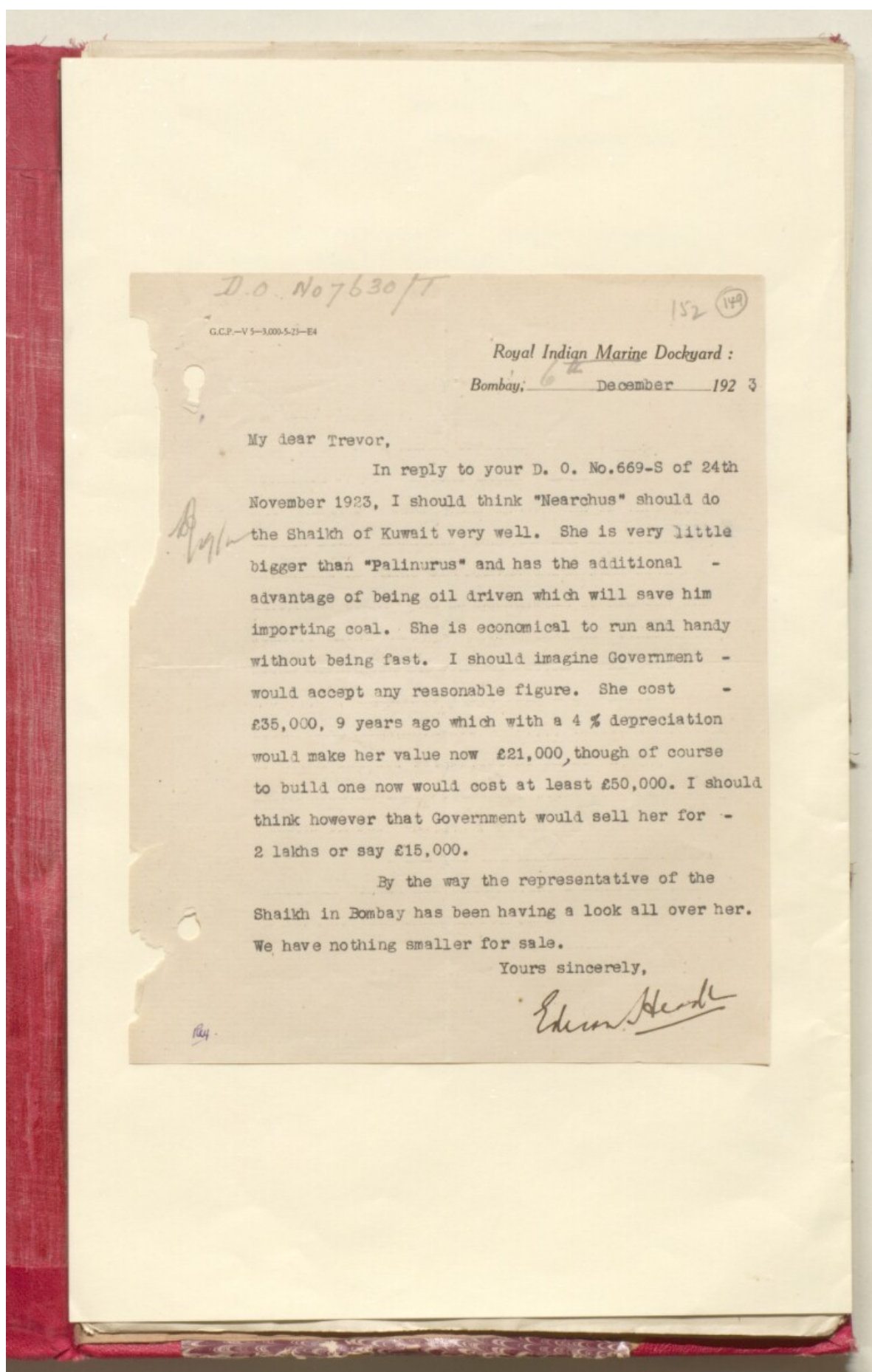
Your 1158.
I see no objection and do not suppose that Shaikh will, but I have not had an opportunity of seeing him since I heard of the proposal.

Political.









G.C.P.-V 5-3,000-5-25-E4

D.O. No 7630/T
152 (149)
Royal Indian Marine Dockyard :
Bombay: 6th December 1923

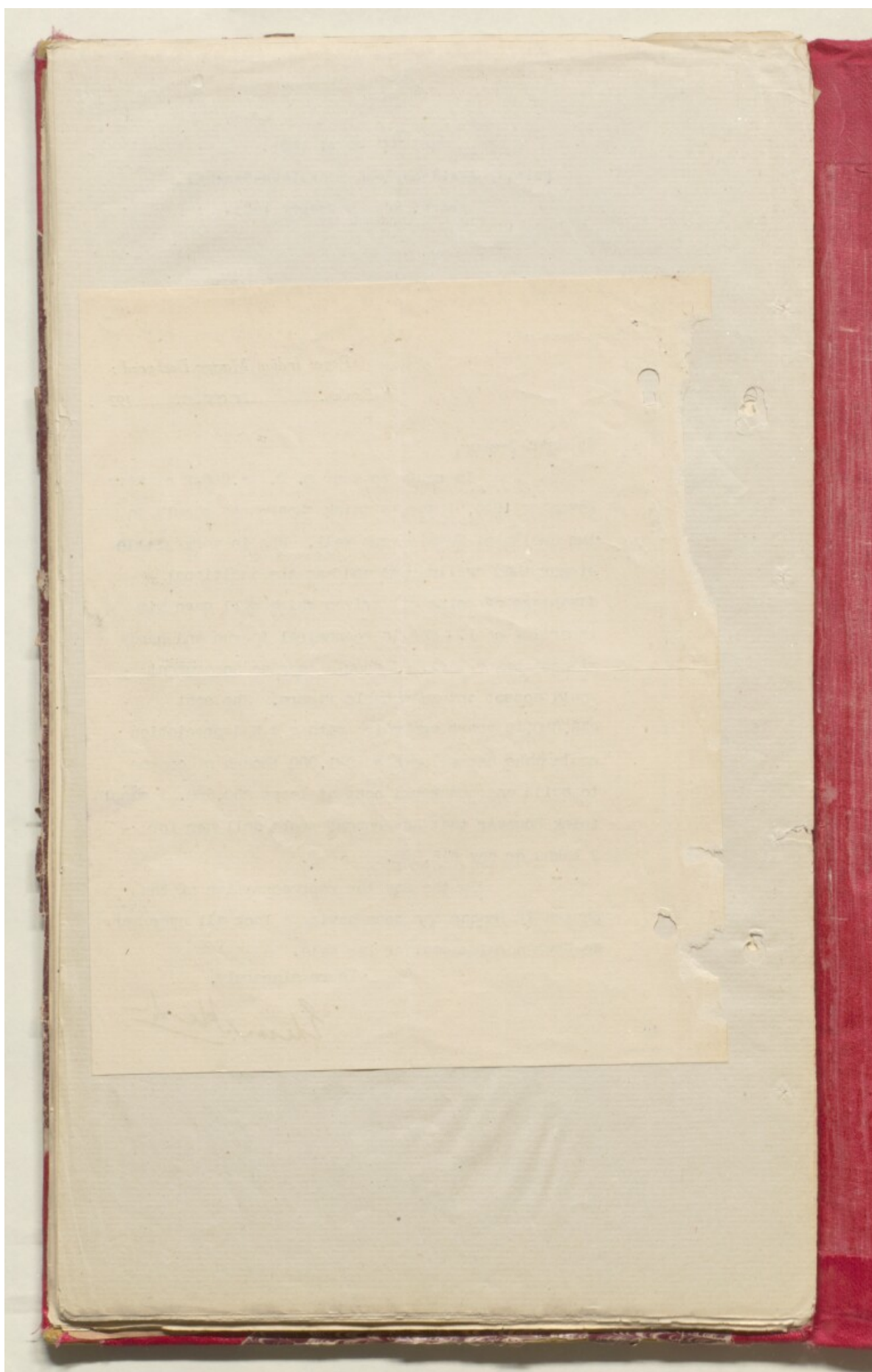
My dear Trevor,

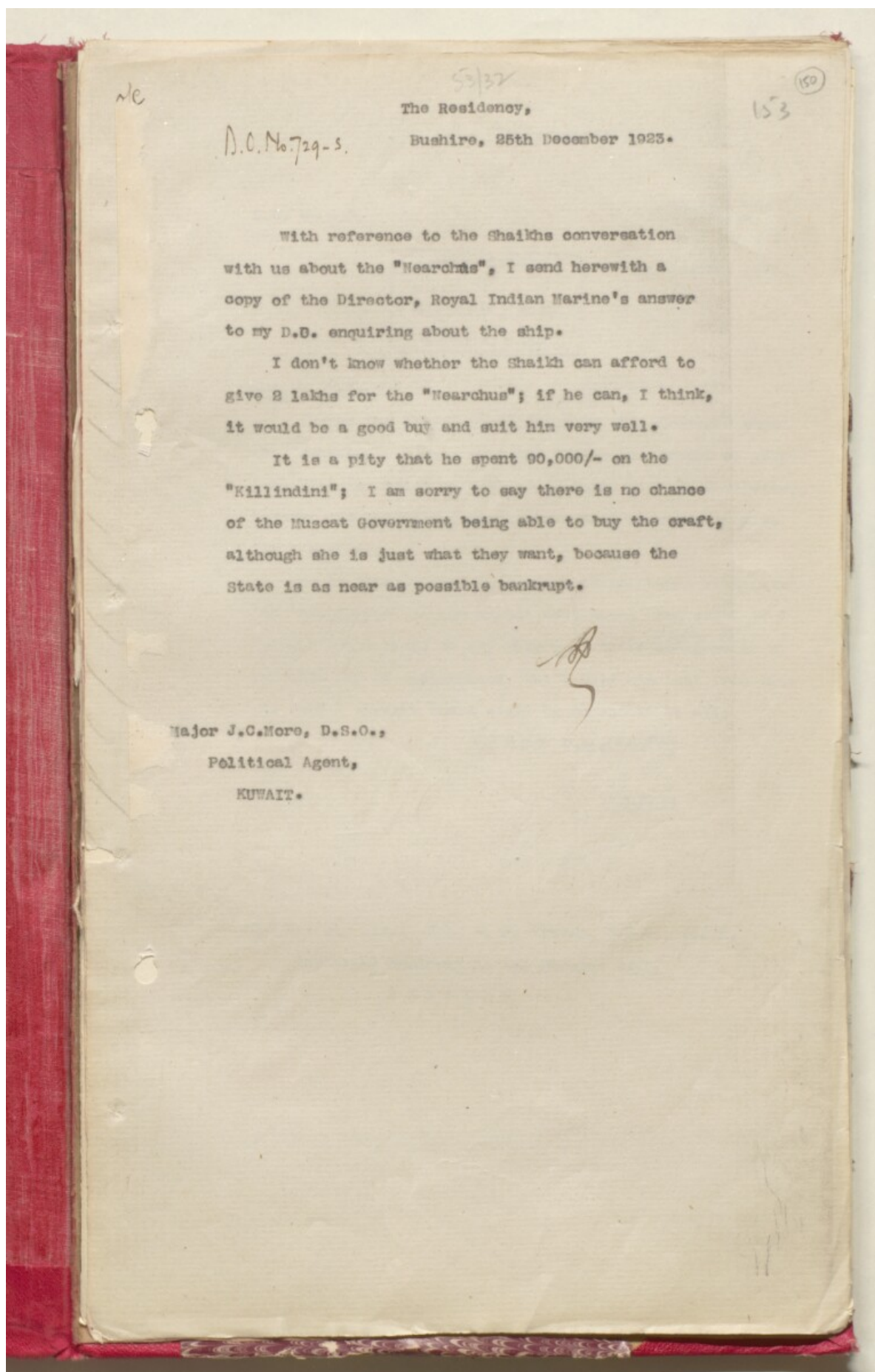
By the way
In reply to your D. O. No.669-S of 24th November 1923, I should think "Nearchus" should do the Shaikh of Kuwait very well. She is very little bigger than "Palinurus" and has the additional - advantage of being oil driven which will save him importing coal. She is economical to run and handy without being fast. I should imagine Government - would accept any reasonable figure. She cost - £35,000, 9 years ago which with a 4 % depreciation would make her value now £21,000, though of course to build one now would cost at least £50,000. I should think however that Government would sell her for - 2 lakhs or say £15,000.

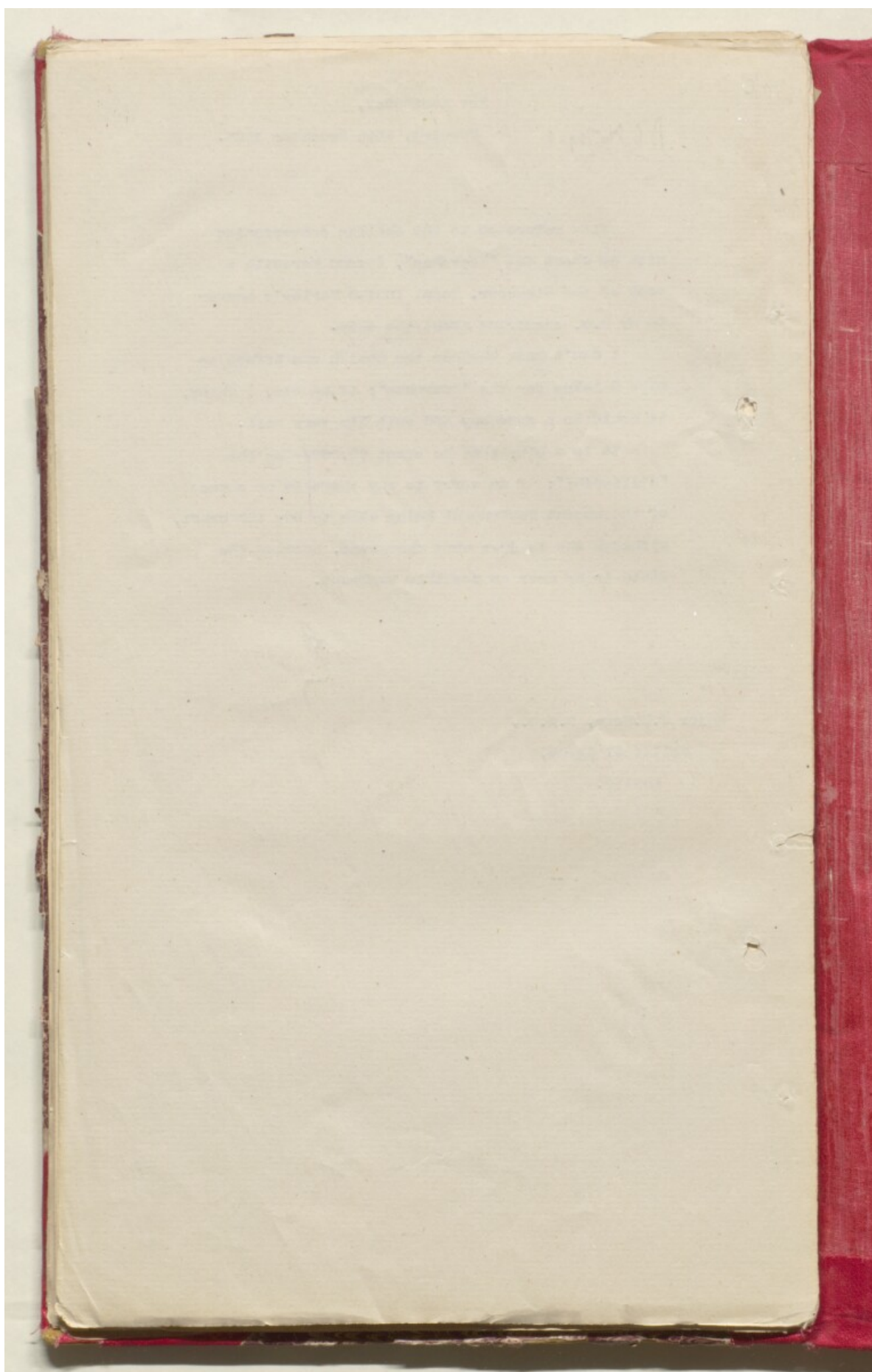
By the way the representative of the Shaikh in Bombay has been having a look all over her. We have nothing smaller for sale.

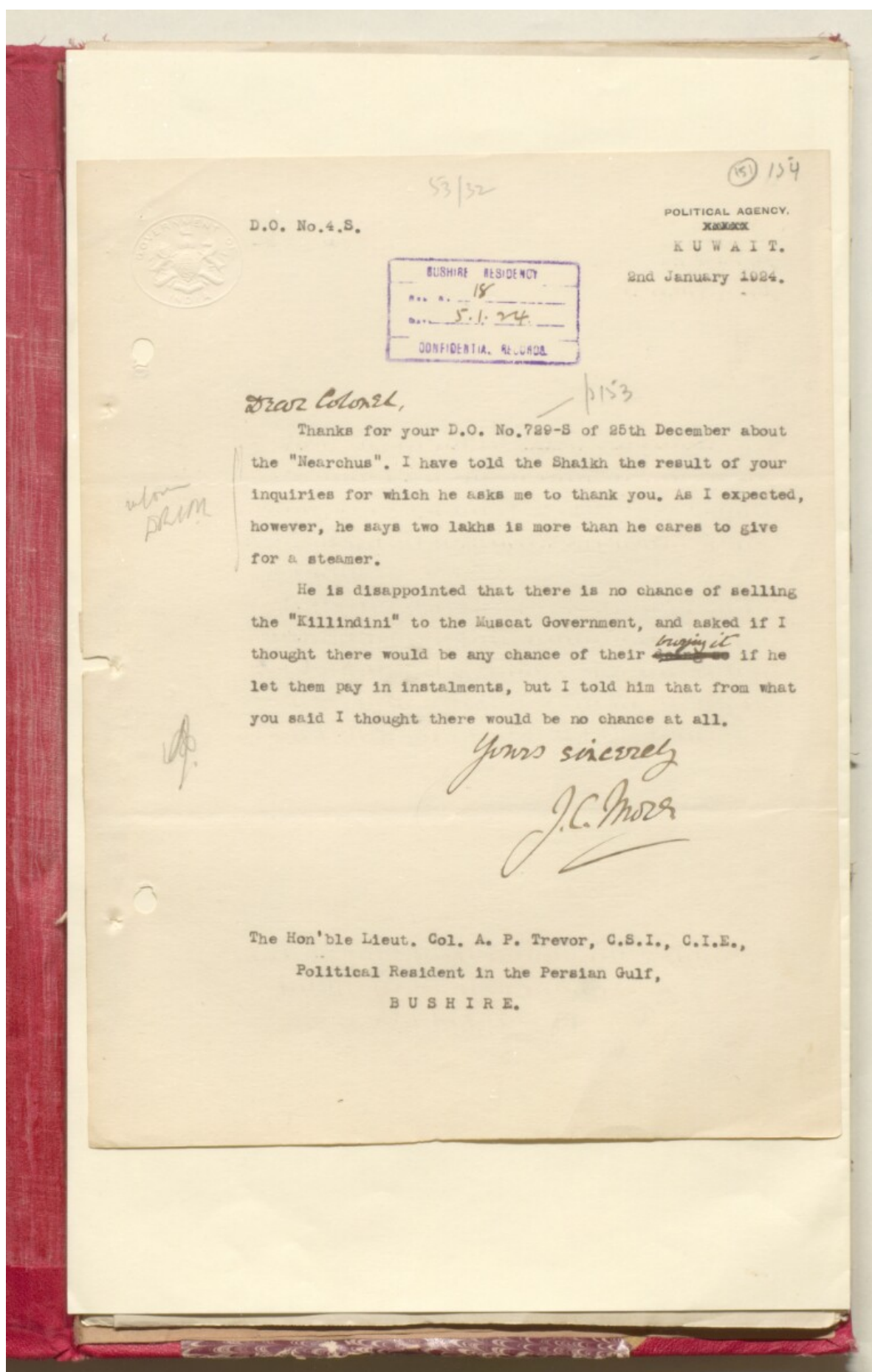
Yours sincerely,

Edmund Head









D.O. No.4.S.

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KOWLOON

K U W A I T.

2nd January 1924.

53/32

151/154

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
No. 18
Date 5.1.24
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

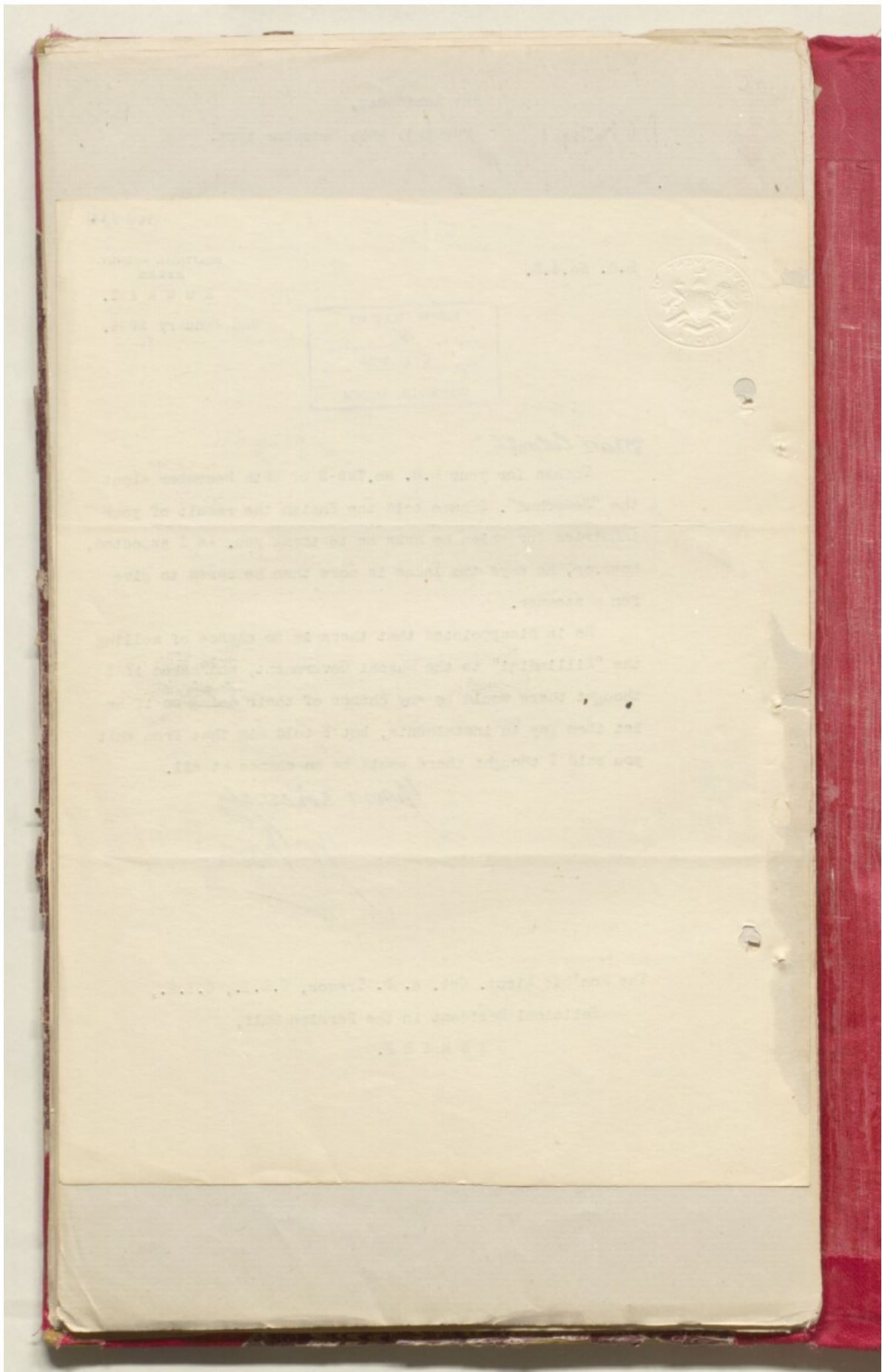
Dear Colonel,

Thanks for your D.O. No.729-S of 25th December about the "Nearchus". I have told the Shaikh the result of your inquiries for which he asks me to thank you. As I expected, however, he says two lakhs is more than he cares to give for a steamer.

He is disappointed that there is no chance of selling the "Killindini" to the Muscat Government, and asked if I thought there would be any chance of their ~~saying it~~ ^{trying it} if he let them pay in instalments, but I told him that from what you said I thought there would be no chance at all.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. A. P. Trevor, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.





D.O. No. 23-S.

53/32

153
(152)

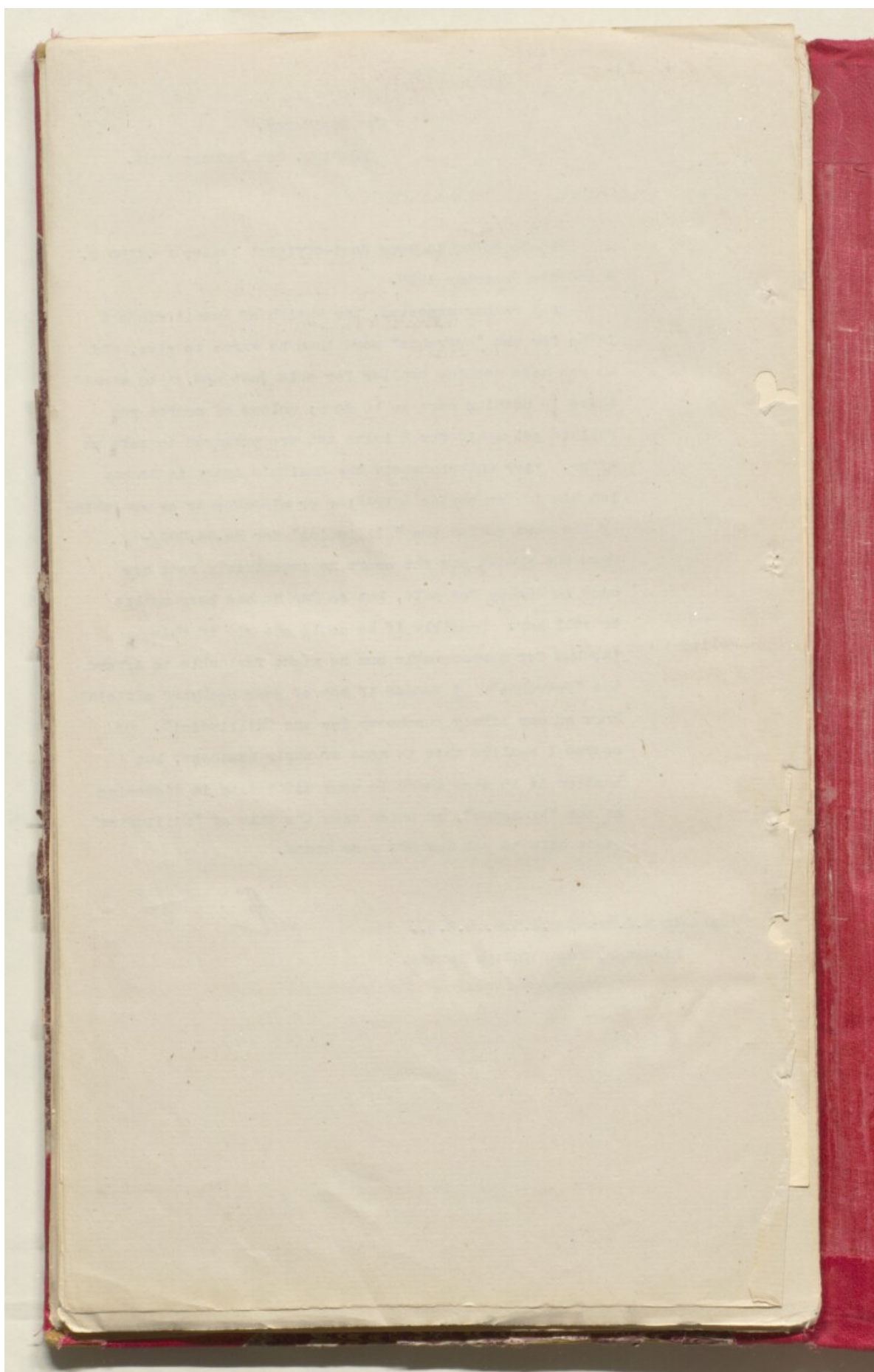
The Residency,

Bushire, 6th January 1924.

Please refer to your demi-official letter No. 7630 T. dated 6th December 1923.

As I rather expected, the Shaikh of Kuwait finds 2 lakhs for the "Nearchus" more than he cares to give, and as you have nothing smaller for sale just now, I am afraid there is nothing more to be done; unless of course you fail to get a bid for 2 lakhs and are prepared to take an offer. Very unfortunately the Shaikh's Agent in Bombay let him in for buying a trawler or minesweeper or something of the sort called the "Killindini" for Rs. 94,000/- When the Shaikh saw the craft he immediately sent her back to Bombay for sale, but so far he has been unable to sell her. Possibly if he could get rid of this incubus for a reasonable sum he might feel able to afford the "Nearchus". I wonder if any of your Dockyard officials know of any likely purchaser for the "Killindini". Of course I realize this is none of their business, but I mention it in case there is some difficulty in disposing of the "Nearchus", in which case the sale of "Killindini" might help to get her off your hands.

Captain E.J. Headlam, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Director, Royal Indian Marine,
Bombay.





D.O. No. 24-S.

53/32
The Residency,

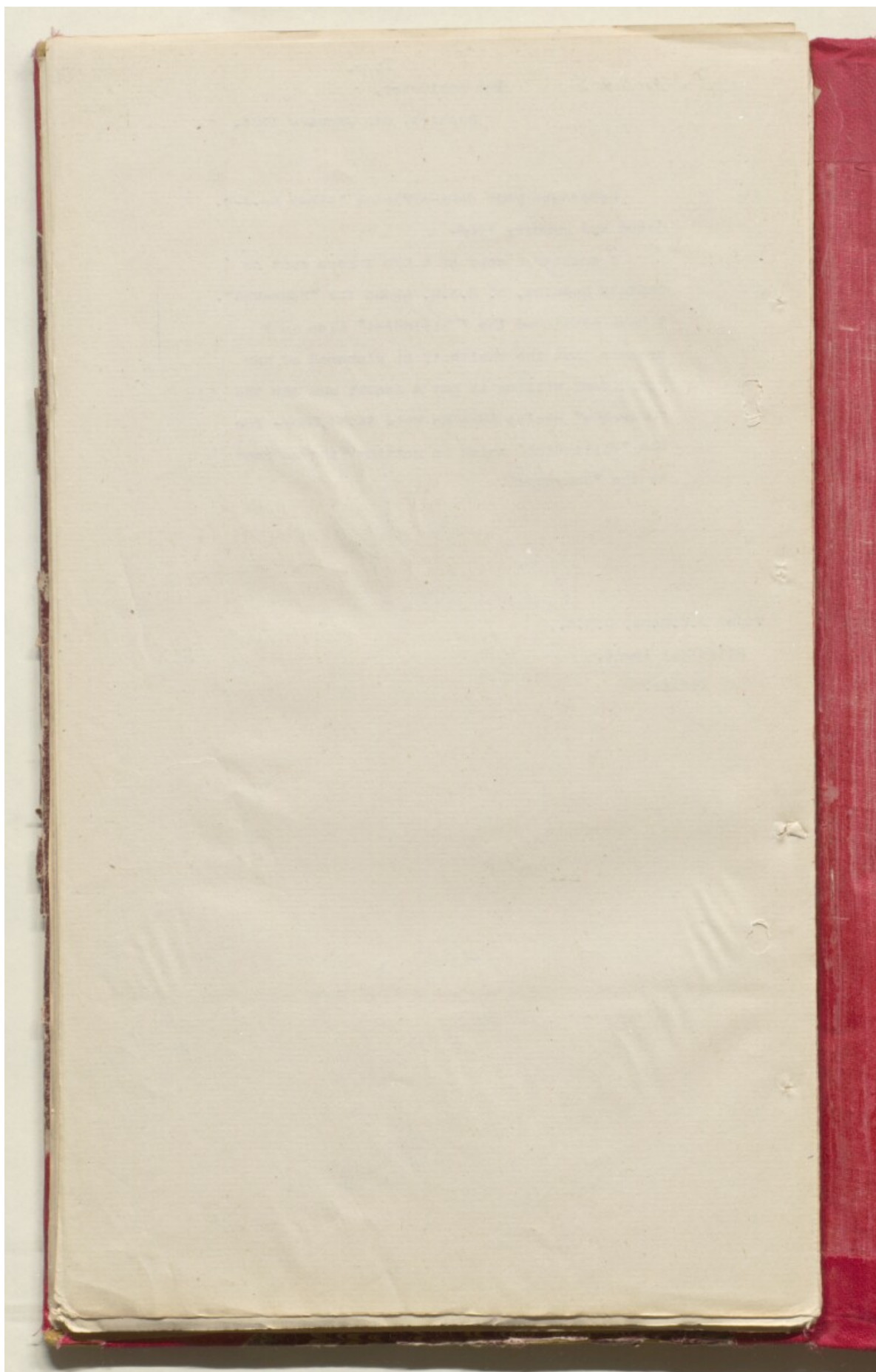
(153) 156

Bushire, 6th January 1924.

Reference your demi-official letter No.4-S.
dated 2nd January 1924.

I enclose a copy of a D/O I have sent to
Captain Headlam, D. R.I.M. about the "Nearchus".
I have mentioned the "Killindini" also as I
presume that the Shaikh if he disposed of her
would feel willing to pay a decent sum for the
"Nearchus" seeing that he paid Rs.94,000/- for
the "Killindini" which is nothing like so good
as the "Nearchus".

Major J.C. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.





53/32

(154) 157

H. C. F. 16.

CPSI...430...639...500...1-9-23

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 50/491

Secretariat of H. E. The High Commissioner
for 'Iraq.

Baghdad, the 5/ March 1924.

By direction of His Excellency the High Commissioner for 'Iraq copy of correspondence as marked below
is forwarded with compliments to :—

The Honourable the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

B
10/2/24

P.R.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
... .. 247.
... .. 10.2.24.
CONFIDENTIAL. RECORDED.

SECRETARY TO
H. E. The High Commissioner for 'Iraq.

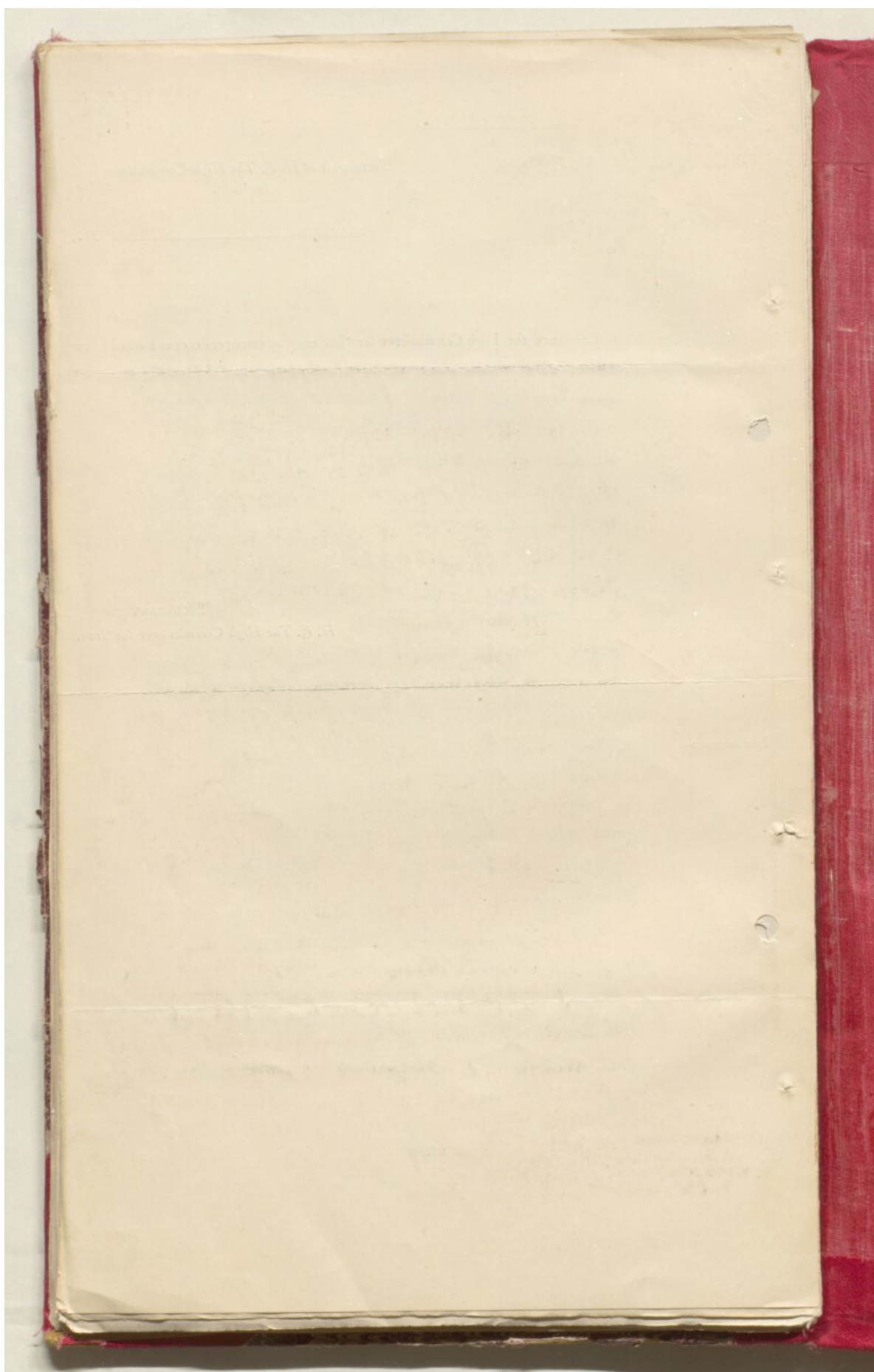
Enclosures :—

Confidential Confidential despatch dated 3/ March, 1924,
from this High Commission, to the Secretary of State for the
Colonies, London.

Enc - I have thought they would be
making a raiding to Kuwait, &
possibly I should not like to see
it.

T.C.

Ap-6h





CONFIDENTIAL.

The Residency,
Baghdad, 3/ March, 1924.

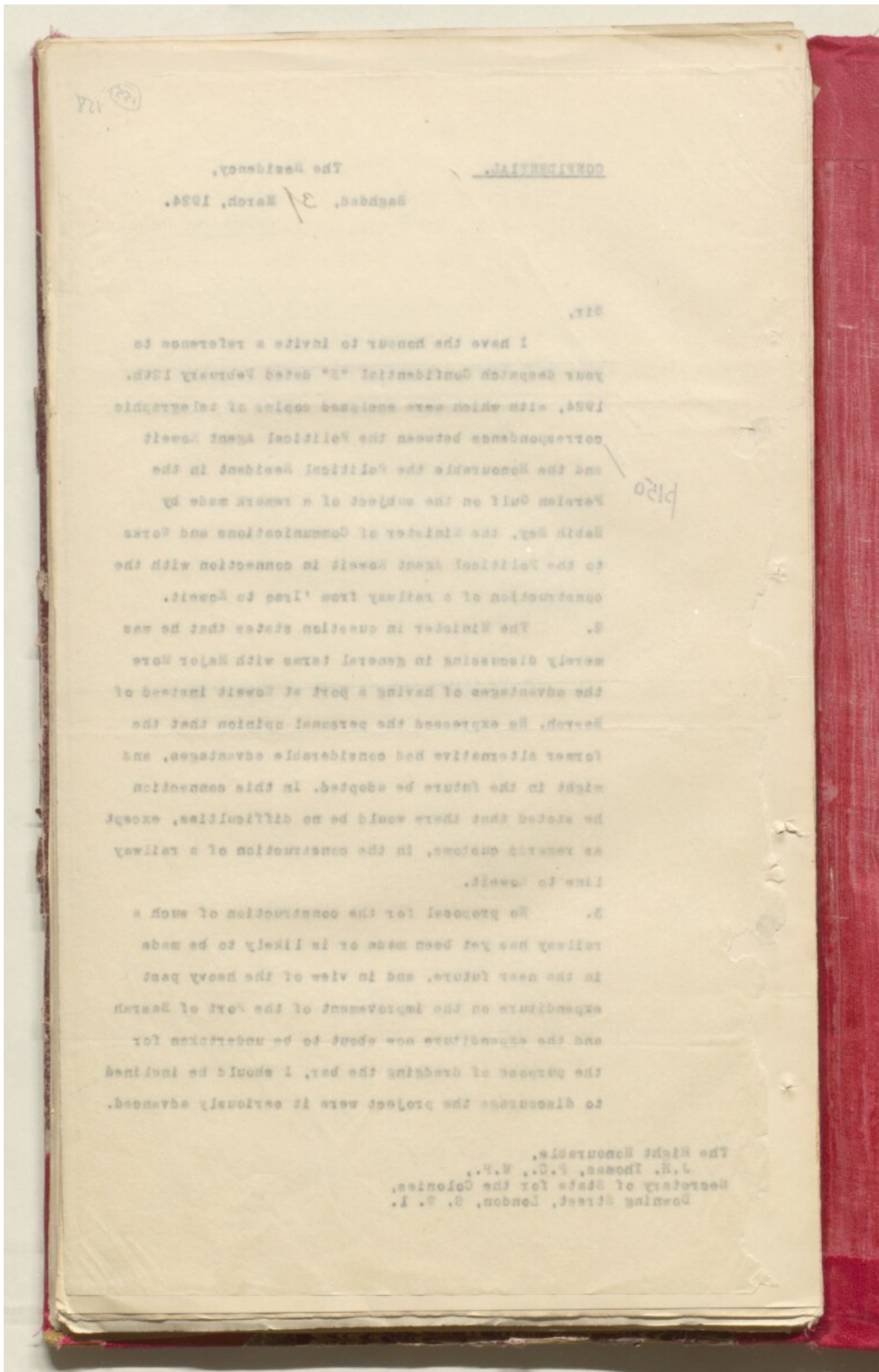
Sir,

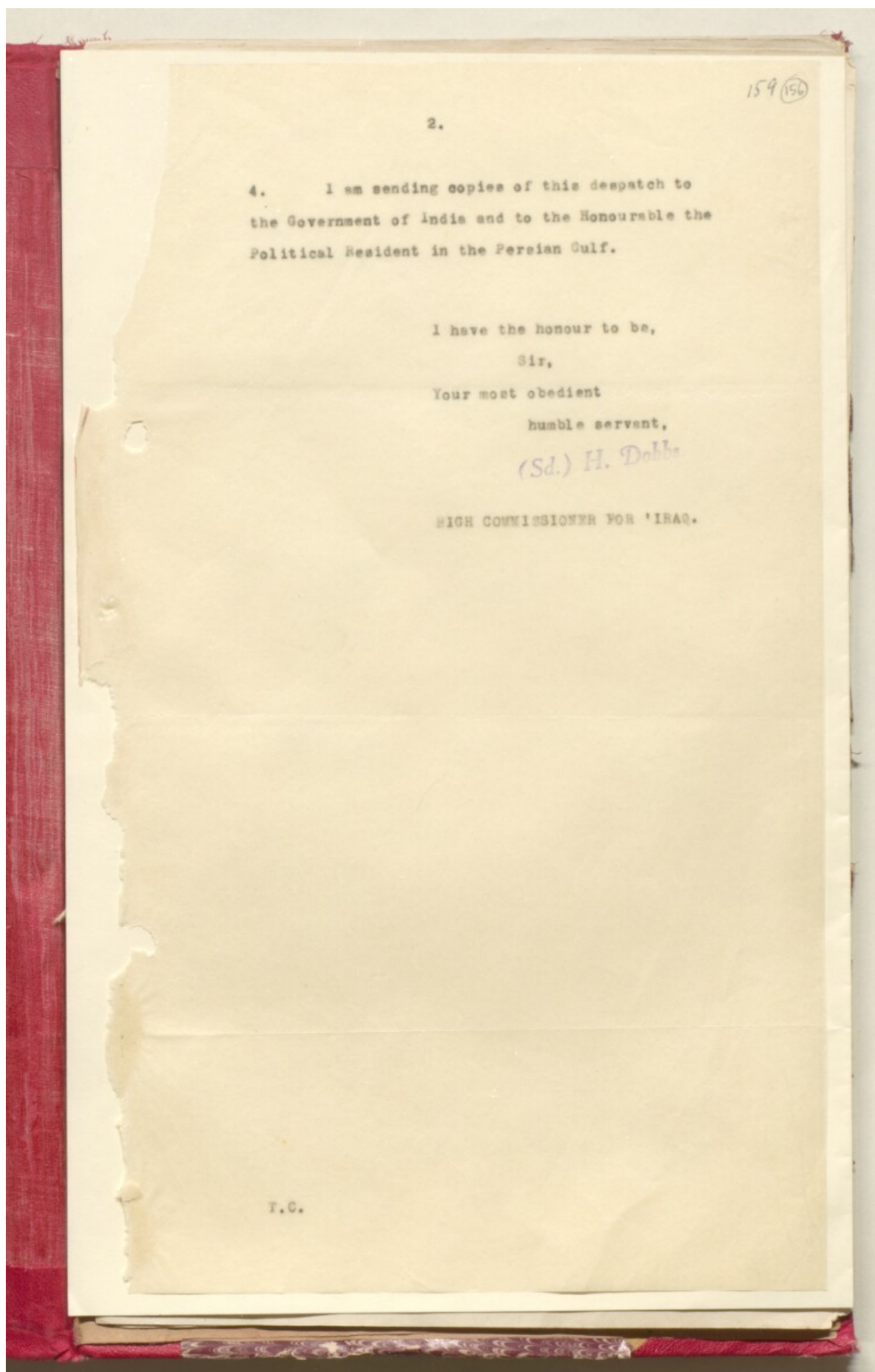
p150 / I have the honour to invite a reference to your despatch Confidential "E" dated February 13th. 1924, with which were enclosed copies of telegraphic correspondence between the Political Agent Kuwait and the Honourable the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf on the subject of a remark made by Sabih Bey, the Minister of Communications and Works to the Political Agent Kuwait in connection with the construction of a railway from 'Iraq to Kuwait.

2. The Minister in question states that he was merely discussing in general terms with Major More the advantages of having a port at Kuwait instead of Basrah. He expressed the personal opinion that the former alternative had considerable advantages, and might in the future be adopted. In this connection he stated that there would be no difficulties, except as regards customs, in the construction of a railway line to Kuwait.

3. No proposal for the construction of such a railway has yet been made or is likely to be made in the near future, and in view of the heavy past expenditure on the improvement of the Port of Basrah and the expenditure now about to be undertaken for the purpose of dredging the bar, I should be inclined to discourage the project were it seriously advanced.

The Right Honourable,
J.H. Thomas, P.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, London, S. W. 1.





159 (156)

2.

4. I am sending copies of this despatch to
the Government of India and to the Honourable the
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

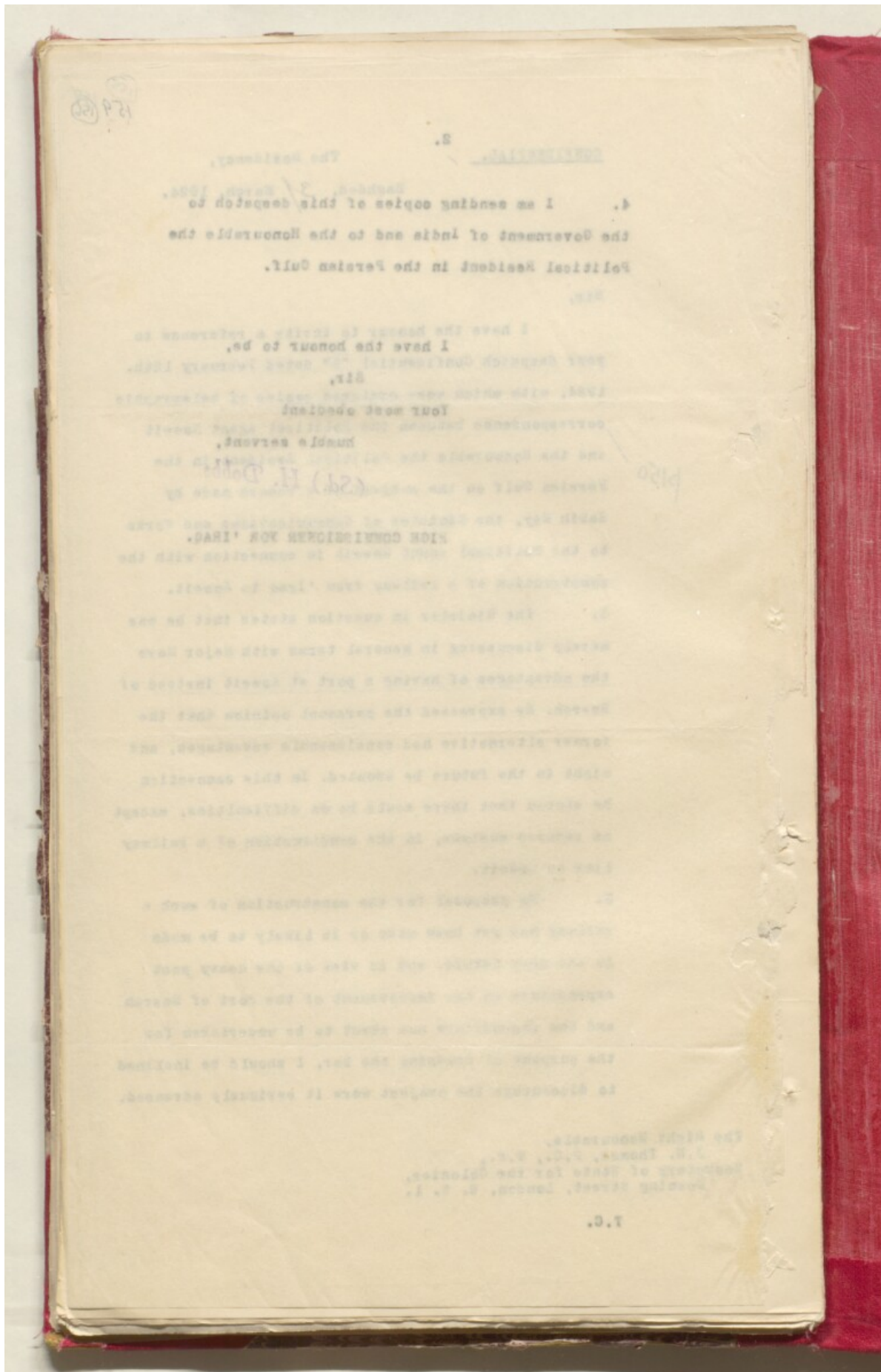
Your most obedient

humble servant,

(Sd.) H. Dobb

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR 'IRAQ.

T.C.





33/32, 53/32 and Tonn 160
(157)

Telegram Code.
From Resident, "LAWRENCE".
To D.R.I.M., Bombay.
No. 45-T.
Dated 18th March 1924.

DEMI-OFFICIAL.

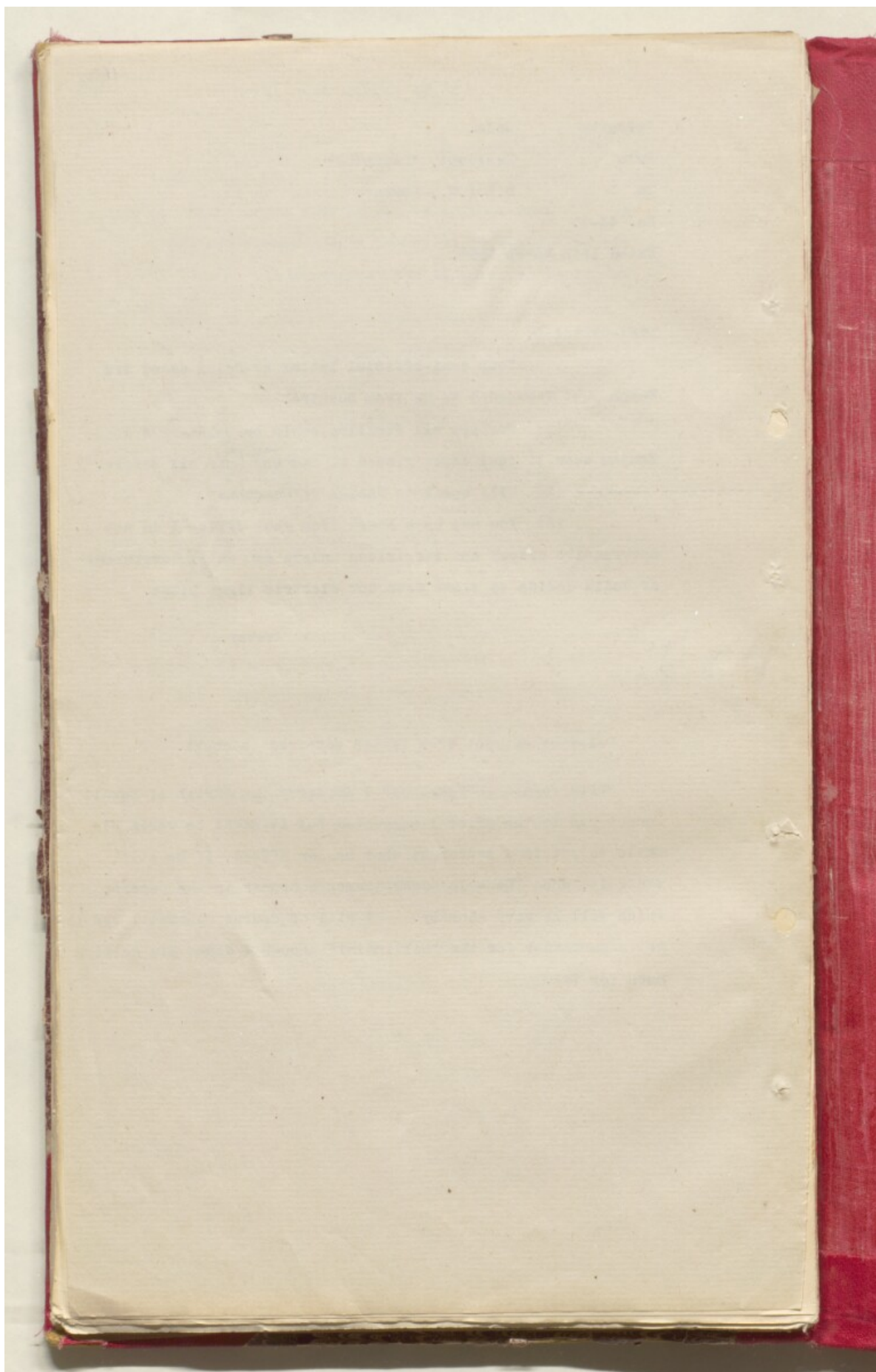
Your demi-official letter 87-Delhi dated 3rd March just forwarded to me from Bushire.

- (1) Perhaps oil fuelling could be maintained at Henjam even if coal depot closed if Company puts oil barges. ?
@ ----- (2) Will speak to Shaikh re "Nearchus".
(3) You may have heard from your office I do not now require driver and electrician unless and until Government of India decide to close down our electric light plant.

Trevor.

@
Relevant extract from letter referred to above.

"With regard to "Nearchus" I am sorry the Shaikh of Kuwait cannot run to the price I suggested but it might be worth his while to put in a tender at what he can afford, if he still wants it, when the sale advertisements appear in the papers, which will be very shortly. I will of course do what I can to get a purchaser for the "Killindini" though I doubt him getting much for it".





12-18
161
53/32
SECRET.

No. 178-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
27th June 1924.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg No 652
Date 2.7.24
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Summaries of Intelligence.

MEMORANDUM.

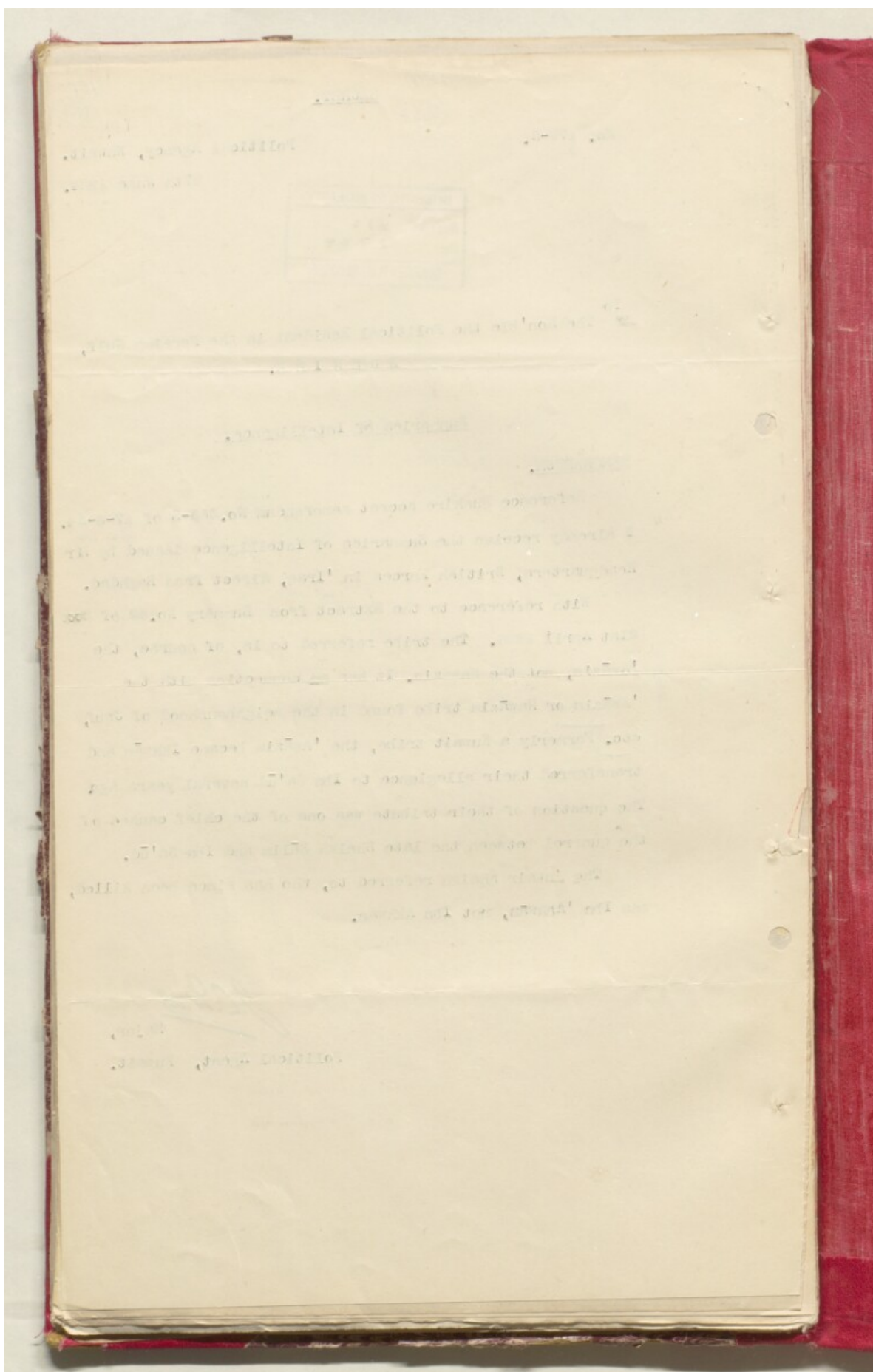
Reference Bushire secret memorandum No. 353-S of 17-6-24.
I already receive the Summaries of Intelligence issued by Air
Headquarters, British Forces in 'Iraq, direct from Baghdad.

With reference to the Extract from Summary No. 62 of 21st April 1924. The tribe referred to is, of course, the
'Awāzim, not the Hawazin. It has no connection with the
'Awāzim or Hawāzim tribe found in the neighbourhood of Jaufr,
etc. Formerly a Kuwait tribe, the 'Awāzim became Ikhwān and
transferred their allegiance to Ibn Sa'ūd several years ago.
The question of their tribute was one of the chief causes of
the quarrel between the late Shaikh Sālim and Ibn Sa'ūd.

The Mutair shaikh referred to, who has since been killed,
was Ibn 'Ashwān, not Ibn Akhwan.

J.C. Major
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

How article?
4882
Awāzim is in
to Summary.





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL. (159)

No. 198-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
14th July 1924.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg.	785
Date	15.7.24.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

From
Major J. C. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Kuwait Flag.

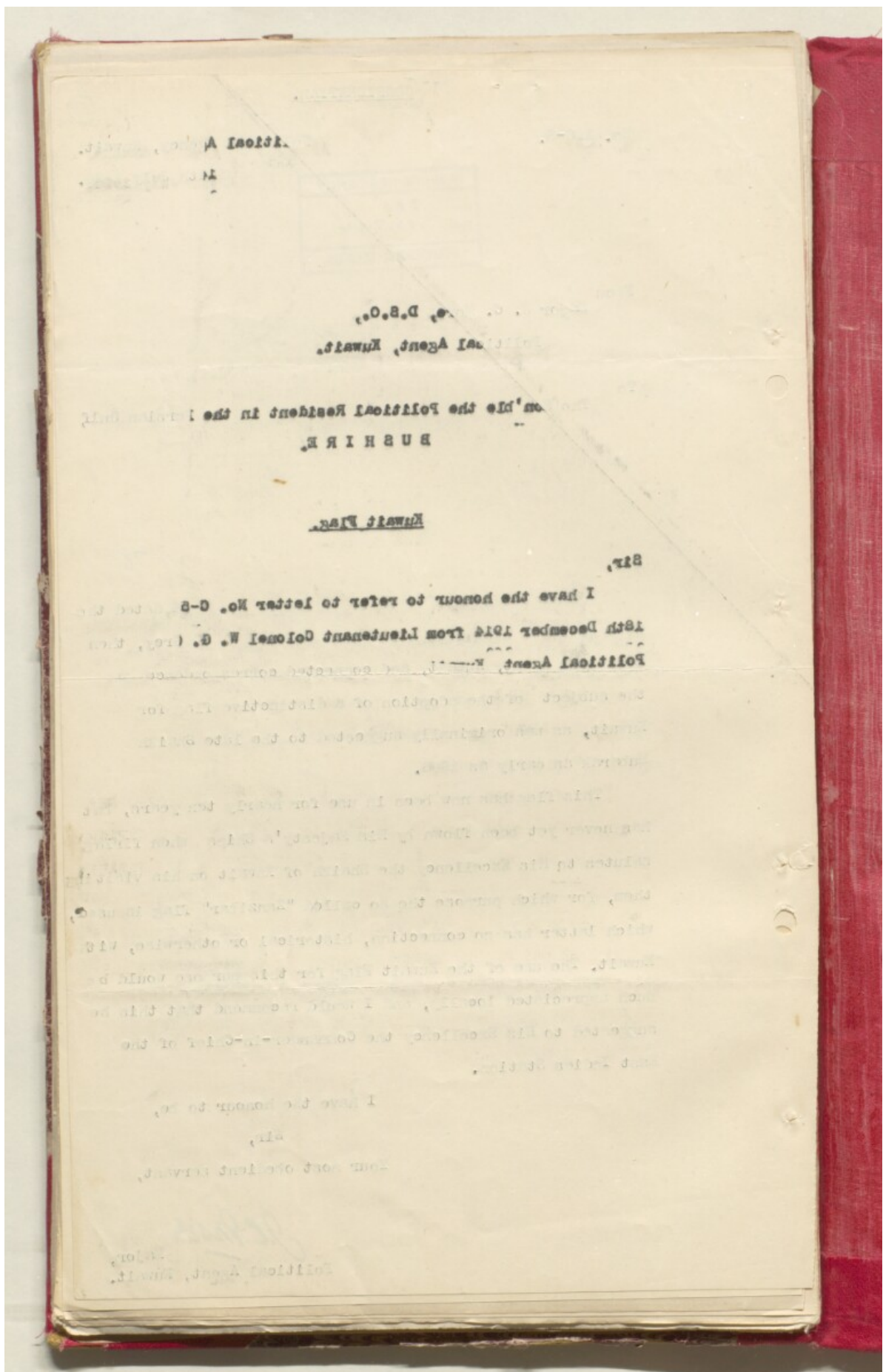
Sir,

I have the honour to refer to letter No. C-54, dated the 18th December 1914, from Lieutenant Colonel W. G. Grey, then Political Agent, Kuwait, and connected correspondence on the subject of the adoption of a distinctive flag for Kuwait, as was originally suggested to the late Shaikh Mubarak as early as 1906.

This flag has now been in use for nearly ten years, but has never yet been flown by His Majesty's Ships when firing salutes to His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on his visiting them, for which purpose the so called "Zanzibar" flag is used, which latter has no connection, historical or otherwise, with Kuwait. The use of the Kuwait Flag for this purpose would be much appreciated locally, and I would recommend that this be suggested to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Station.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

J.C. More
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 440-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 3rd August 1924.

From

The Hon'ble Lieut-Col. F. B. Frideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department, SIMLA.

Kuwait Flag.

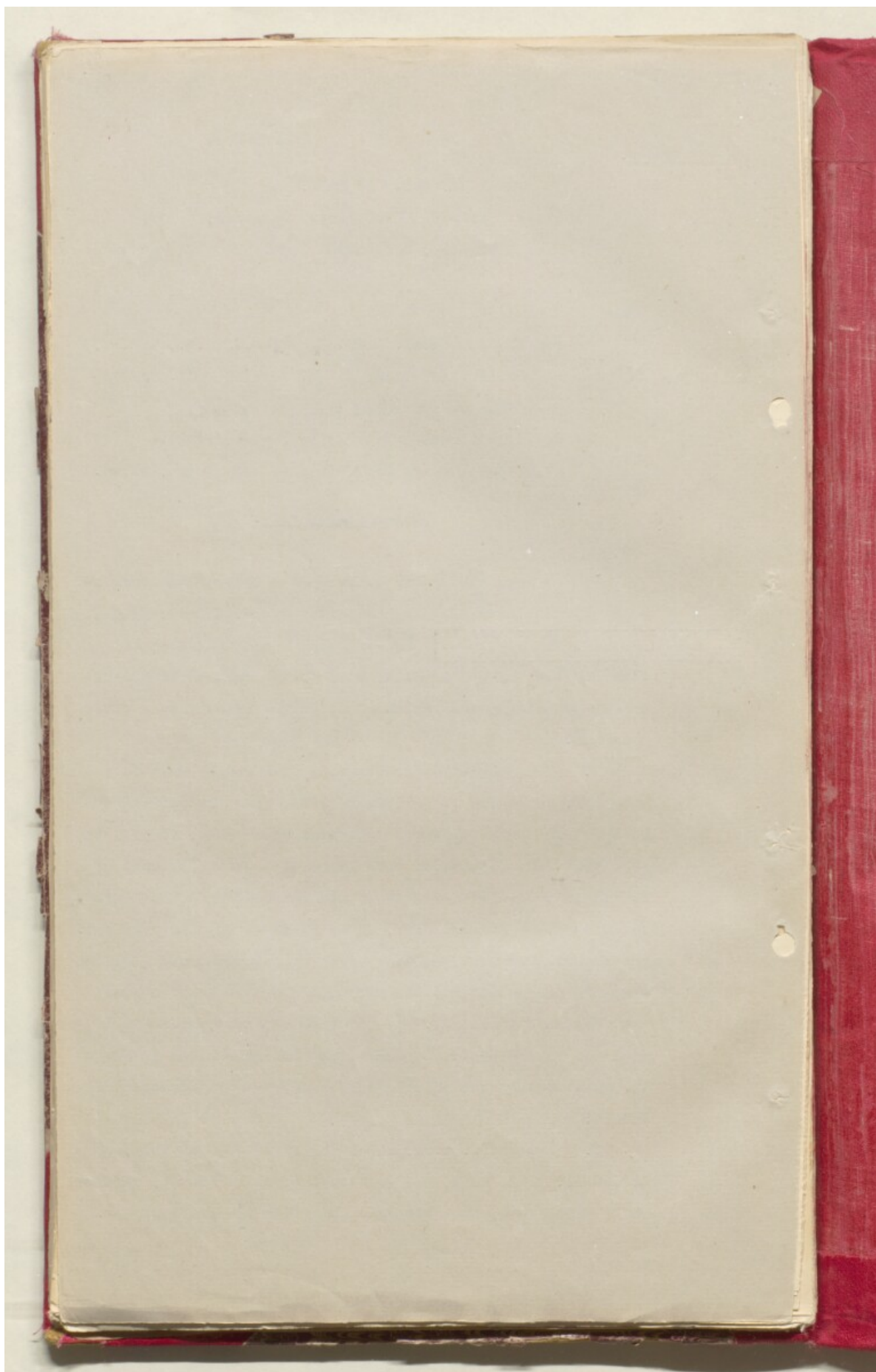
Sir,

I have the honour to forward a copy of the margin-
ally cited letter from the Political Agent, Kuwait, request-
No. 196-S, dated 16th July 1924. ing that the Kuwait flag be
flown by His Majesty's Ships, when firing salutes in honour
of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit
from him.

2. From correspondence ending with endorsement No.
5999 E/S, dated the 18th February 1907, from the Government
of India in the Foreign and Political Department, it will be
seen that some discussion took place with Shaikh Mubarak of
Kuwait in 1904-6 with a view to his introducing a State Flag,
in lieu of the Turkish Flag, to be flown by his dhows at sea.
The negotiations for the time being fell through owing to the
Shaikh's demand for British protection of his boats against
the Turkish authorities. In December 1914, while on a
visit to Sir Percy Cox at Basra, the Shaikh decided to adopt
the distinctive flag which has been in use ever since at
Kuwait.

3. Letter No. C.54, dated the 18th December 1914, from
Lieut-Col. W. G. Grey, the Political Agent at Kuwait, referred
to by Major More, was written at the time of this incident.

AS





165
161

2.

As I am unable to trace the reference under which the letter was forwarded to the Government of India, I enclose a copy now for their information.

4. I agree with Major More that the use by His Majesty's Ships of the Kuwait flag in place of the "Zanzibar" (rectius "Trucial Coast, 1820") flag, hitherto employed by them when saluting the Shaikh, would be much appreciated in Kuwait. I request therefore that the Government of India may be pleased to convey the suggestion to His Excellency the Commander in Chief of the East Indies Station.

See
Aitchison's
Treaties,
Vol. III,
p. 172.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

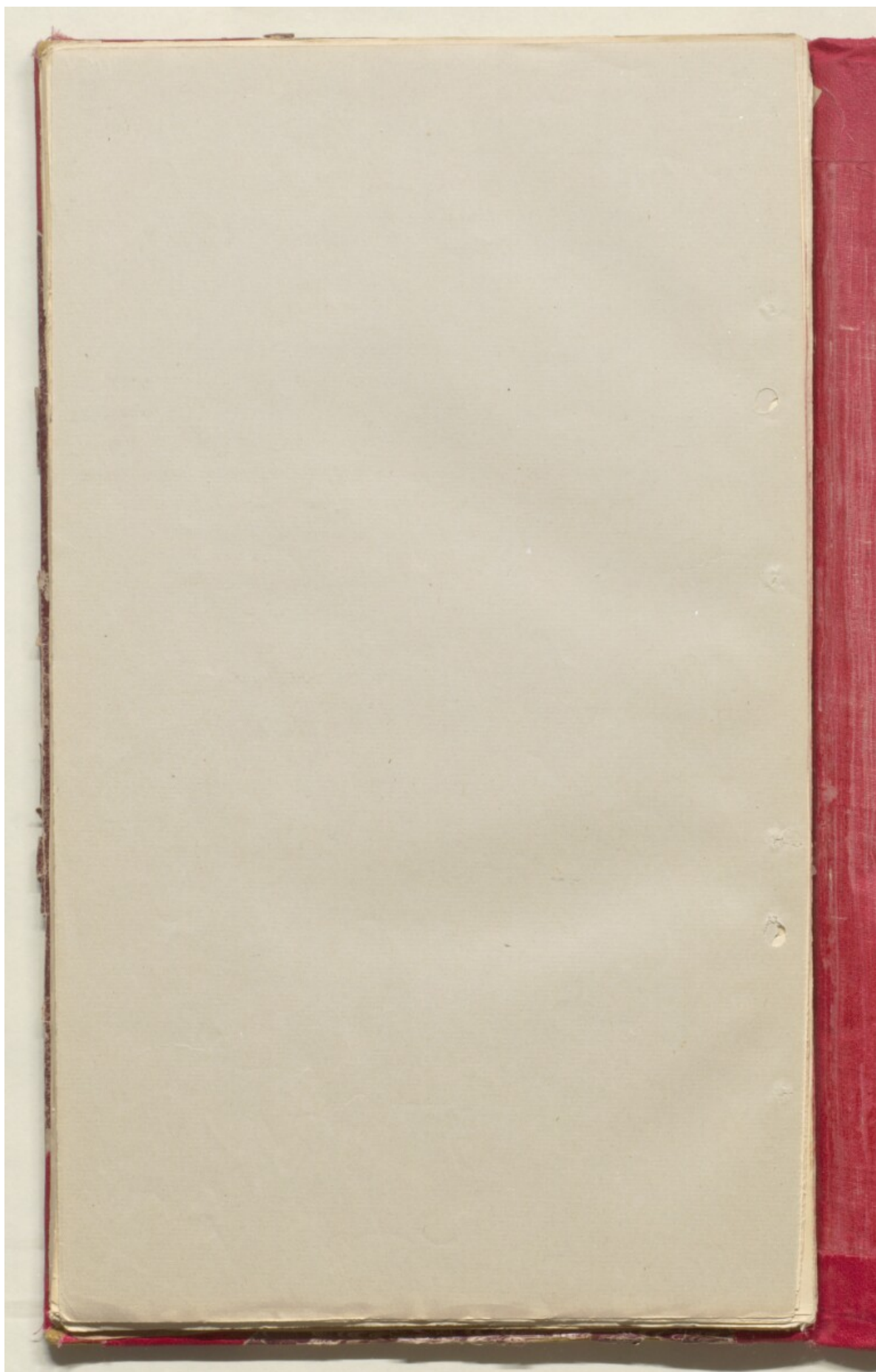
Your most obedient servant,

Forbush

Lieut-Col.,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Copy to the Political Agent, Kuwait.





✓
53/32 & 26/185. 166/162

Telegram R.
From Political Agent, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire.
No. 280-S.
Dated and received 27th September 1924.

PRIORITY.

I have had two requests from Shaikh Ahmad recently to issue passes for the conveyance (?) of arms belonging to the Shaikh of Mohammerah (both small consignments, larger only 8 rifles and 3000 (rounds of ammunition ?). Unless I hear to the contrary I shall assume that such requests should be complied with as usual.

This refers to your despatch 537-S.
Political.)

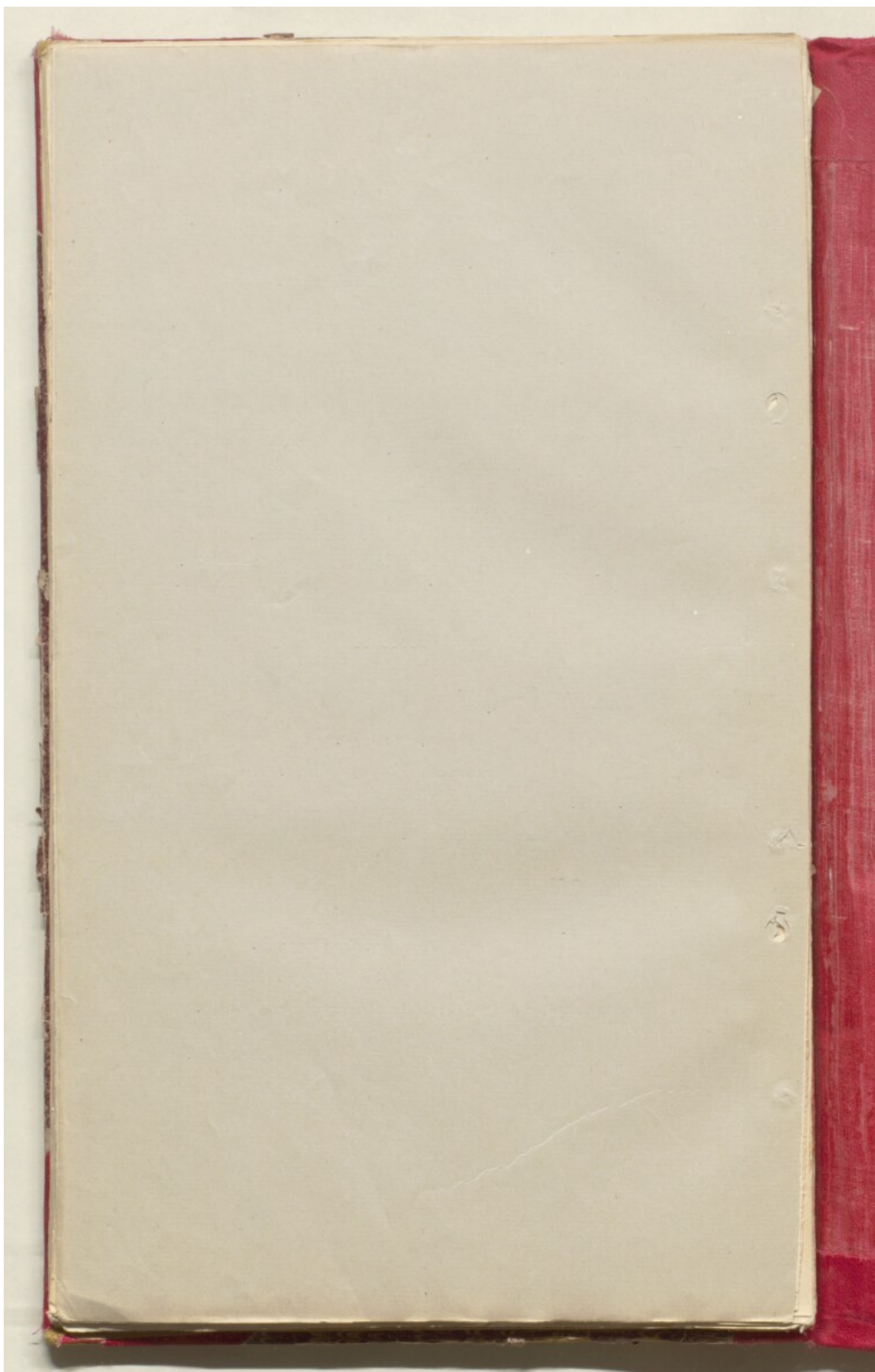
F 274 file
26/185

Telegram R.
From Resident, Bushire.
To Political Agent, Kuwait.
No. 981.
Dated 28th September 1924.

PRIORITY.

Please do not issue passes.
Tell your Chief that His Majesty's Government are neutral if rebellion in Arabistan commences.

Resident.





Confidential.

No.104-X.

BUSHNET RESIDENCY.	
Reg.	1222
Date	30.10.24.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

A copy of the undermentioned paper(s) is forwarded to
the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
the Army (Marine) Department,
for information, with reference to his letter No.440-S, dated
the endorsement from the
3rd August 1924.
Foreign and Political Department, No.104-X, dated 23rd September
1924.

By order, etc.,

Chaitin

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

Foreign and Political Department;

Simla;

The 18th October 1924.

Not to
Army Deptt.

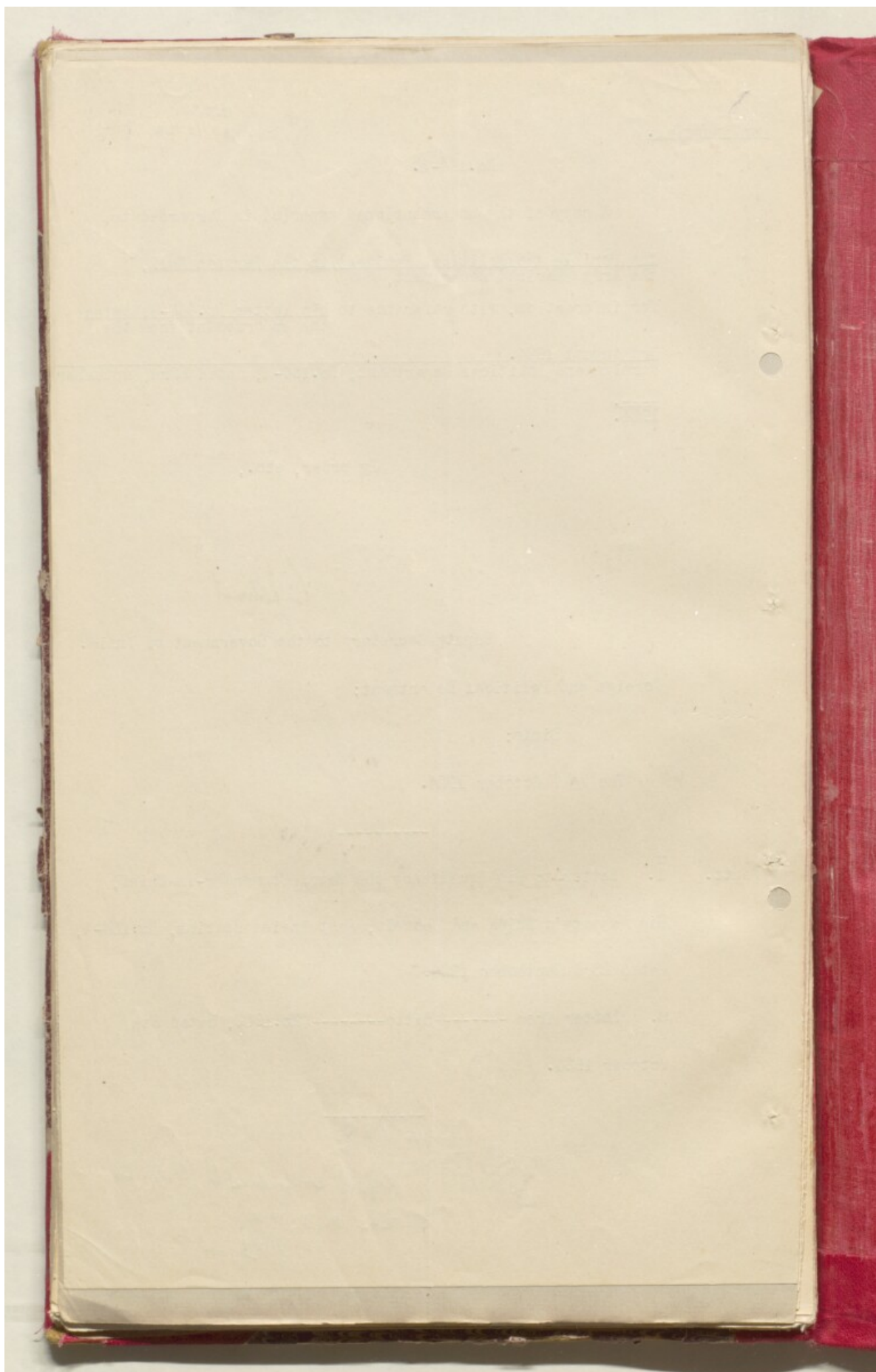
1. Letter to His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief,
His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station, No.104-X,
dated 23rd September 1924.
2. Letter from -----ditto----- No.1202, dated 8th
October 1924.

with 18c.

Cop. of correspondence to Comdr. Lammie

Y. R.A.S. M.B. & K.

30/10/24





168
168

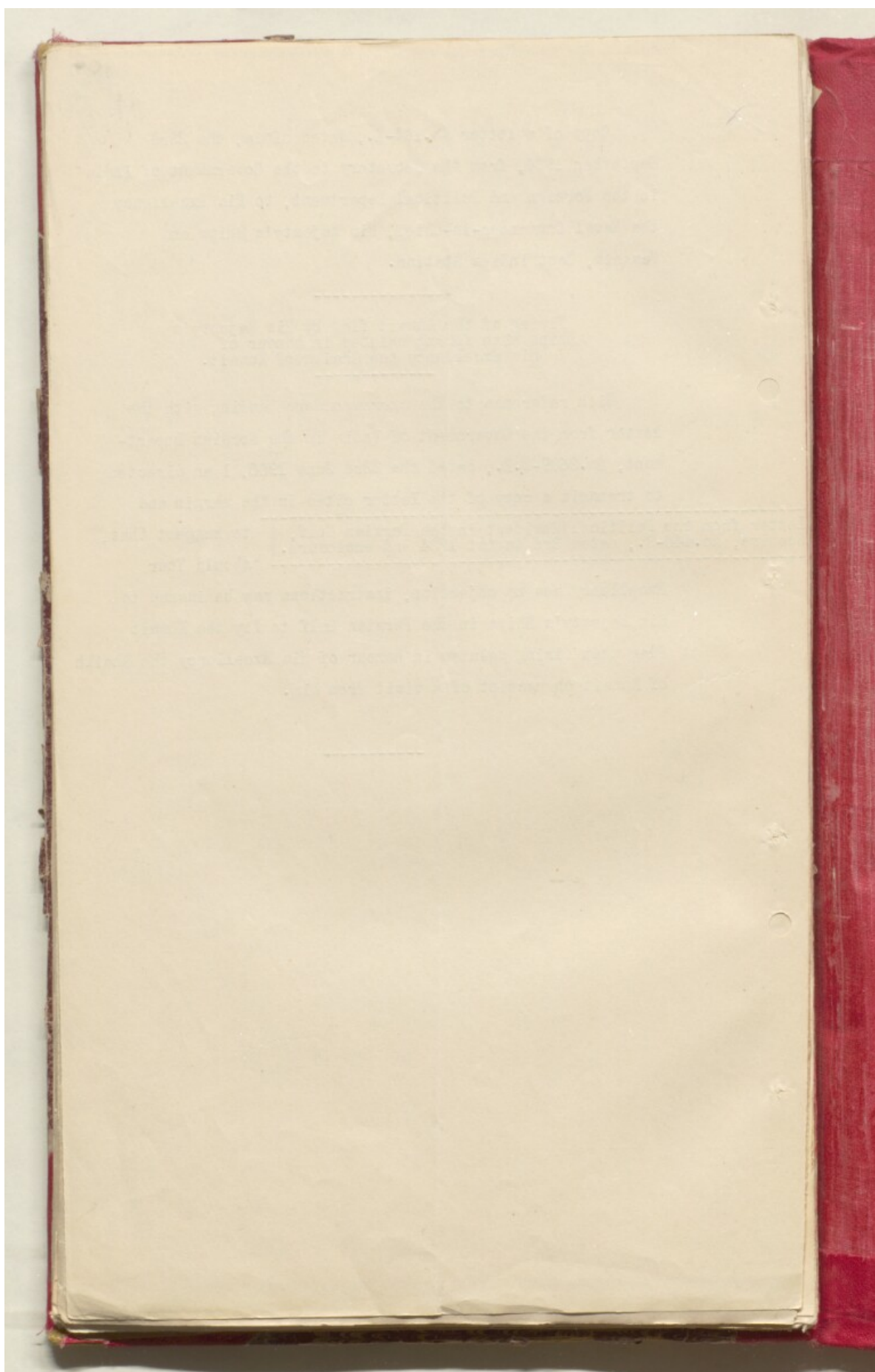
Copy of a letter No.104-X., dated Simla, the 23rd September 1924, from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, to His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station.

Flying of the Kuwait flag by His Majesty's Ships when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait.

With reference to the correspondence ending with the letter from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No.2639-B.B., dated the 23rd June 1906, I am directed to transmit a copy of the letter cited in the margin and

Letter from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, No.440-S., dated 3rd August 1924 and enclosure. | to suggest that, should Your

Excellency see no objection, instructions may be issued to His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf to fly the Kuwait Flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him.



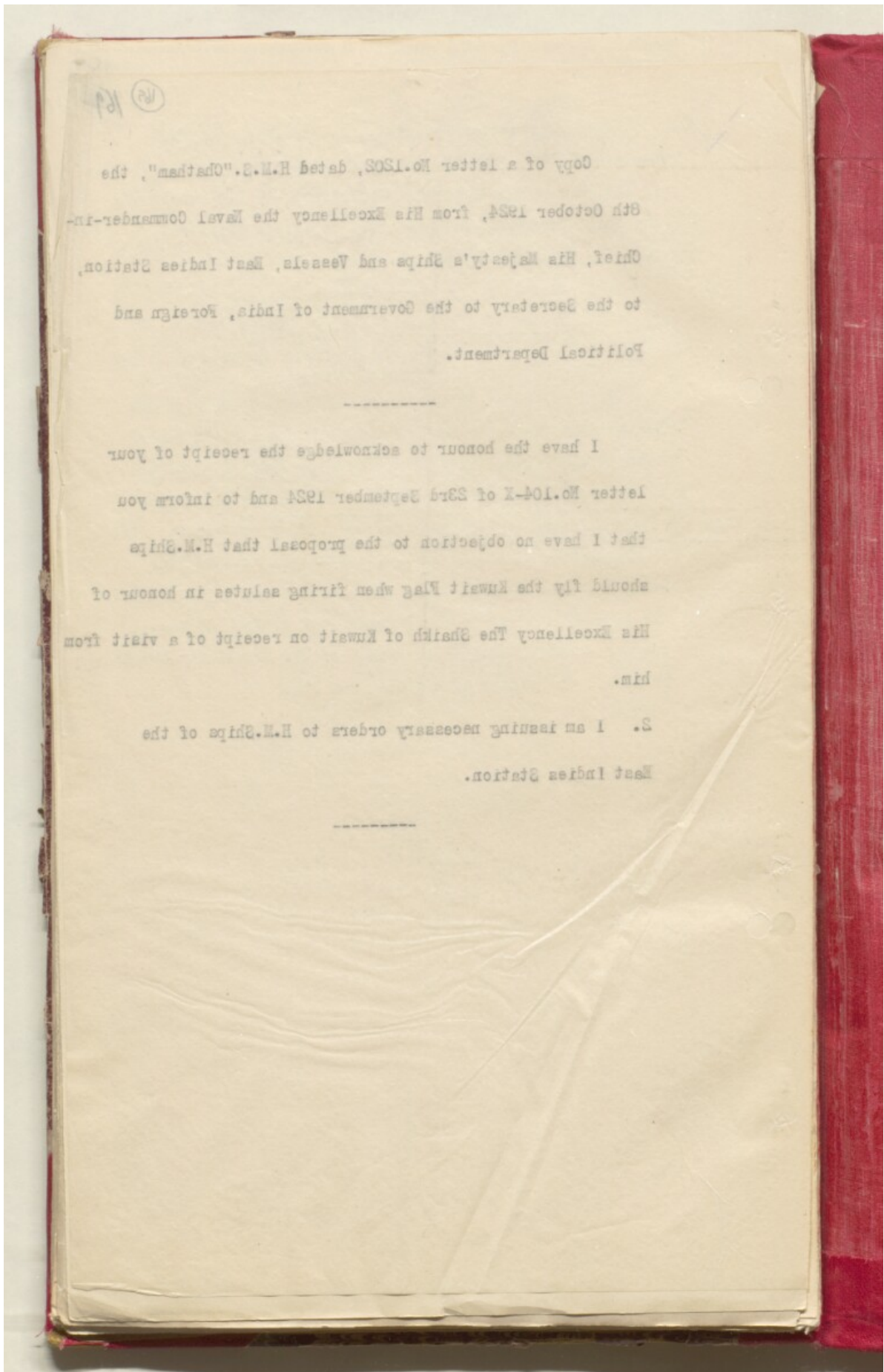


(165) 169

Copy of a letter No.1202, dated H.M.S."Chatham", the
8th October 1924, from His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-
Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station,
to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign and
Political Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your
letter No.104-X of 23rd September 1924 and to inform you
that I have no objection to the proposal that H.M.Ships
should fly the Kuwait Flag when firing salutes in honour of
His Excellency The Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from
him.

2. I am issuing necessary orders to H.M.Ships of the
East Indies Station.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 610-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Rushire, 3rd November 1924.

Copies of the undermentioned papers are forwarded
to

The Political Agent, Kuwait,
The Political Agent, Bahrain,
The Political Agent, Muscat,
The Commander, R.I.M.S. "ELPHINSTONE".

By order,

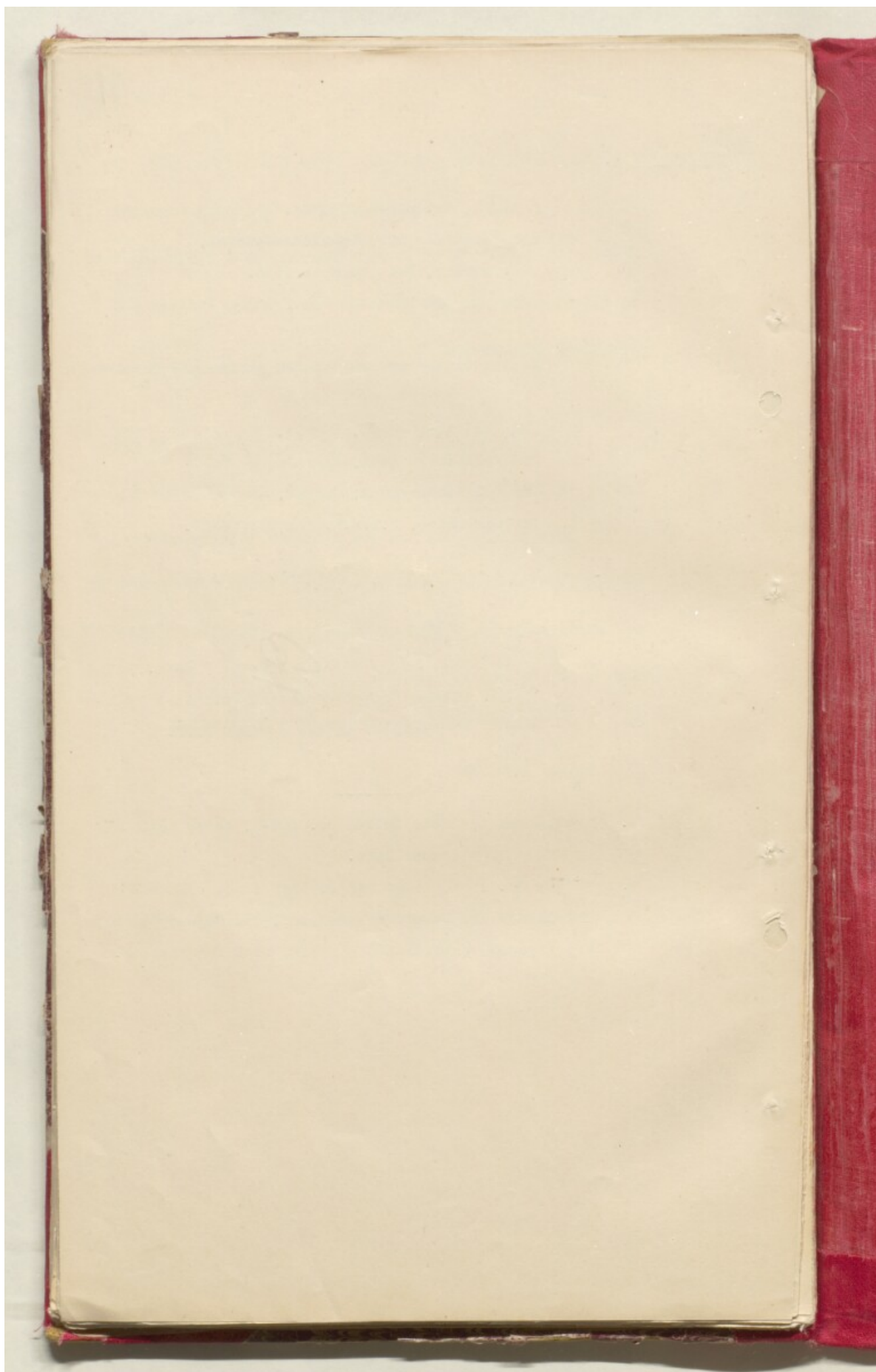
gc

G.A.

Capt.,

Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

-
1. Government of India letter No. 104-F, dated 23rd September 1924.
 2. Letter No. 1202, dated 8th October 1924, from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station, replying thereto.





33/32 177(167)

Salutes.
D.Regr.No.10.

No.1074-M.
Government of India,
Marine Department.
Simla, the 28th October 1924.

Reg. No. 1299
Date 21.10.24
CONFIDENTIAL RECORD

To
The Director, Royal Indian Marine.

FLYING OF THE KUWAIT FLAG BY
R.I.M. SHIPS WHEN FIRING SALUTES IN
HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE SHAIKH
OF KUWAIT.

Sir,

I am directed to state that in consultation with His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, it has been arranged that His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf will fly the Kuwait flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him. I am to request that this procedure may ^{also} ~~then~~ be followed by Royal Indian Marine Ships in the Persian Gulf on similar occasions.

I am, etc.,
Sd. F.A. Daniel,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

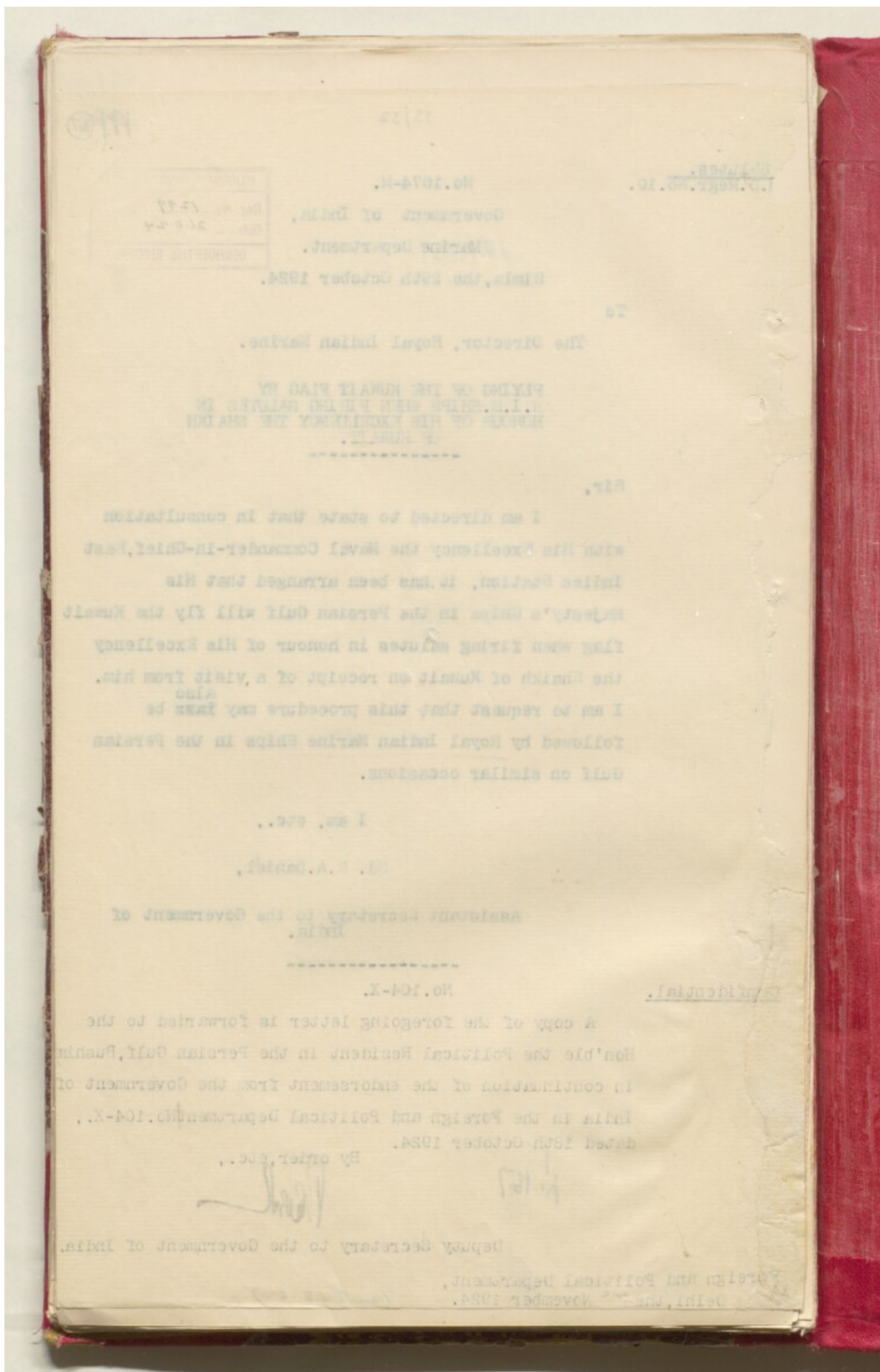
Confidential. No.104-X.

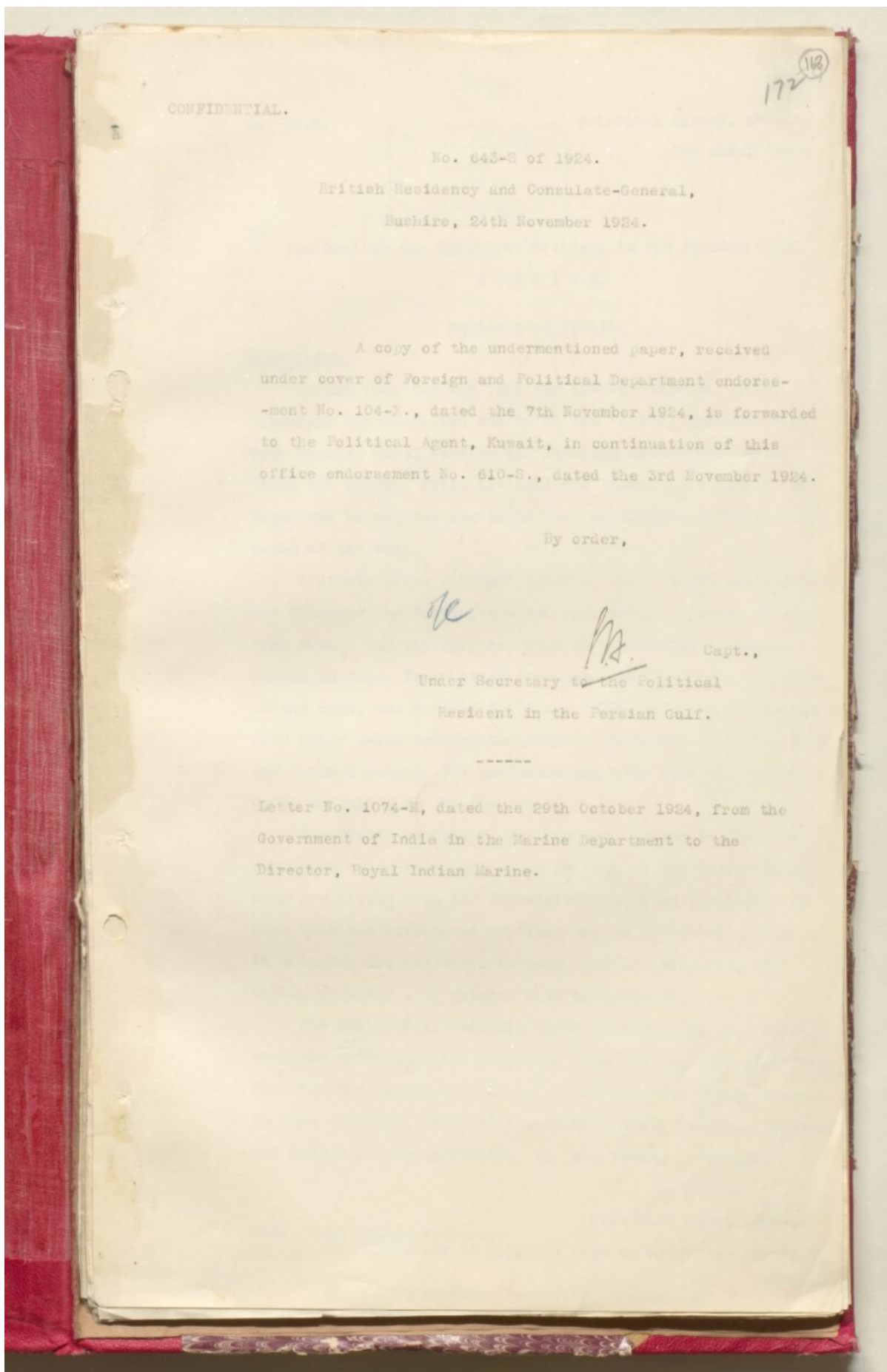
A copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire in continuation of the endorsement from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No.104-X., dated 18th October 1924.

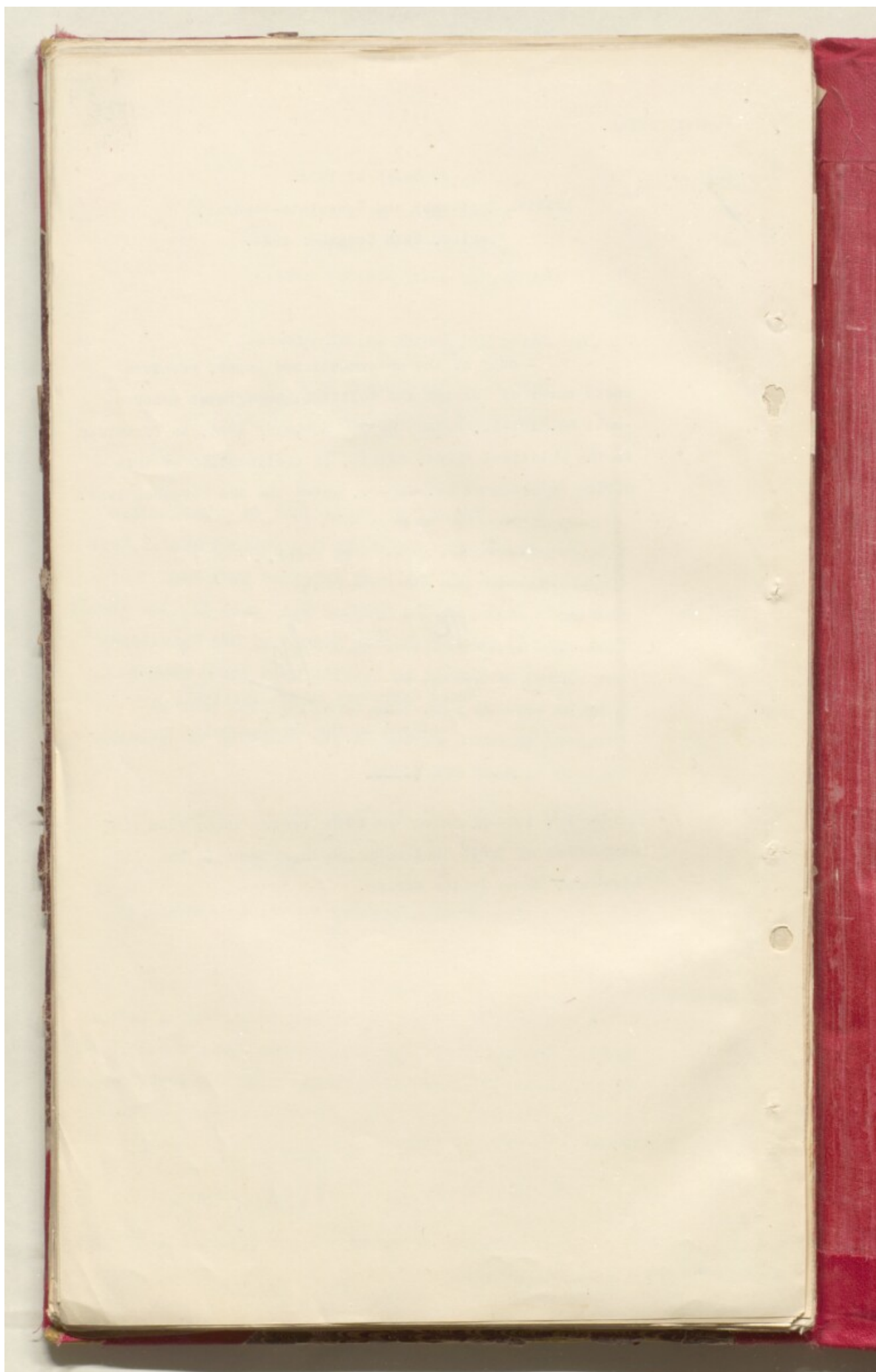
By order, etc.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

Foreign and Political Department,
Delhi, the 24th November 1924. (with 15.c.)

p. 167









53/32 175 (169)

No. 62-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
3rd March 1925.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg. No. 227	Date 11-3-25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Murder near Kuwait.

MEMORANDUM.

On the 14th January 1925 two Kuwait subjects, named 'Abdullah bin Ghunaimān and Sa'ūd bin 'Aibān, together with four Najdis, named Ibrahim al-'Abdullah al-Fauzān, 'Abdul 'Azīz bin Najrān, Jifin al-'Ajmi and 'Idān, left Kuwait for Najd, and halted for the night near Ma'daniyāt, fifteen miles south of the town.

A little after midnight two men, named Bajād al-Humaidāni and Muhammad abu Ramyah, who had apparently followed them up from Kuwait for the purpose, made an unexpected murderous attack on them. They killed 'Abdullah bin Ghunaimān and Jifin on the spot, and wounded Sa'ūd and 'Idān (of whom the latter died after being brought to Kuwait), while the other two fled and escaped unhurt. The murderers got away with all the property belonging to the six men.

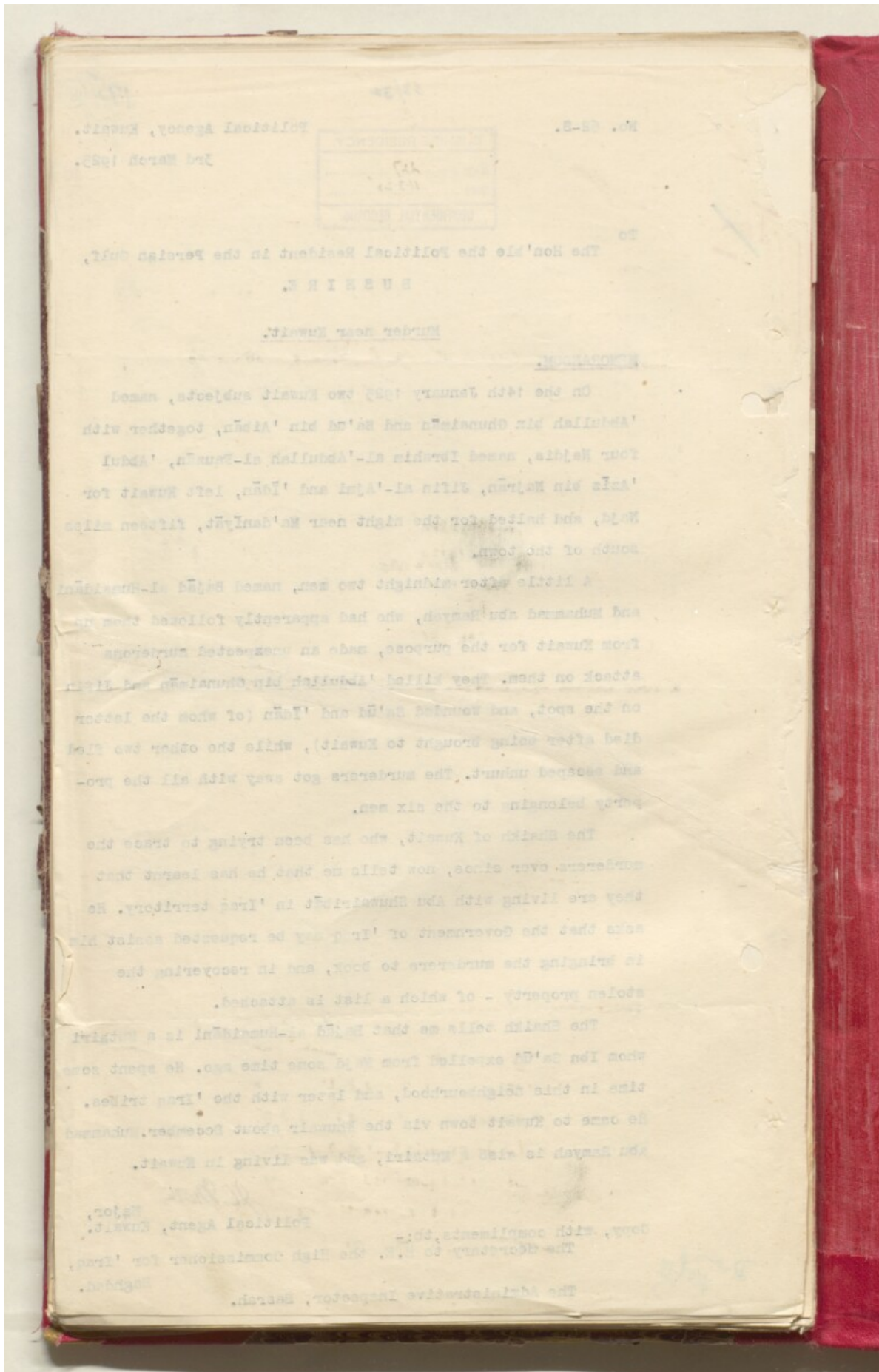
The Shaikh of Kuwait, who has been trying to trace the murderers ever since, now tells me that he has learnt that they are living with Abu Shuwairibāt in 'Iraq territory. He asks that the Government of 'Iraq may be requested assist him in bringing the murderers to book, and in recovering the stolen property - of which a list is attached.

The Shaikh tells me that Bajād al-Humaidāni is a Mutairi whom Ibn Sa'ūd expelled from Najd some time ago. He spent some time in this neighbourhood, and later with the 'Iraq tribes. He came to Kuwait town via the Khuwair about December. Muhammad abu Ramyah is also a Mutairi, and was living in Kuwait.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy, with compliments, to:-
The Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq,
Baghdad.
The Administrative Inspector, Basrah.

D. H. K. 10/3





176 (170)

List of things stolen by Bajād al-Humaidāni & Muhammad abu Ramiyah.

<u>Belonging to 'Abdullah al-Ghungimān</u>	ST.	Rs.
One saddlebag containing two cloaks (one not made up)	10.	120.
One thin cloak		25.
Half a roll of calico & 2 rolls of cheap red cloth, six head cloths & a woman's cloak		71.
One carpet, 9½ lbs. coffee, 3½ lbs. incense, some musk and rose scent.....		135.
One Mauzer rifle and fifty rounds of ammunition.....	20.	
Cash.....	11.	50. 80.

Belonging to Ibrāhīm al-'Abdullah al-Fauzān.

One riding camel.....	300	
One cloak @ Rs.50/-, one new rug @ Rs.40/, a complete camel saddle		118
Yarn to the value of Rs.110/-, incense & scent.....		160
3 thaubs, 3 dishdashahs, 2 new large head cloths....		25
'Agāls, looking glasses, scissors.....		33
Cash.....	10	

Belonging to 'Abdul 'Azīz bin Najrān.

A red saddle bag & 2 small saddle bags @ Rs.26/-, one thick cloak & one thin one.....		76
2 dozen head cloths @ Rs.40/-, thaubs, dishdashahs, &c		53
9½ lbs. coffee, 9½ lbs sugar, 4 lbs. tea & 1 lb. incense		56
one cooking pot, one compass & three knives.....		9
Dried lemons, pepper, cloves & cardamom.....		20
Cash.....	65	
A purse, containing papers & documents.		

Belonging to Sa'ūd al-'Albān.

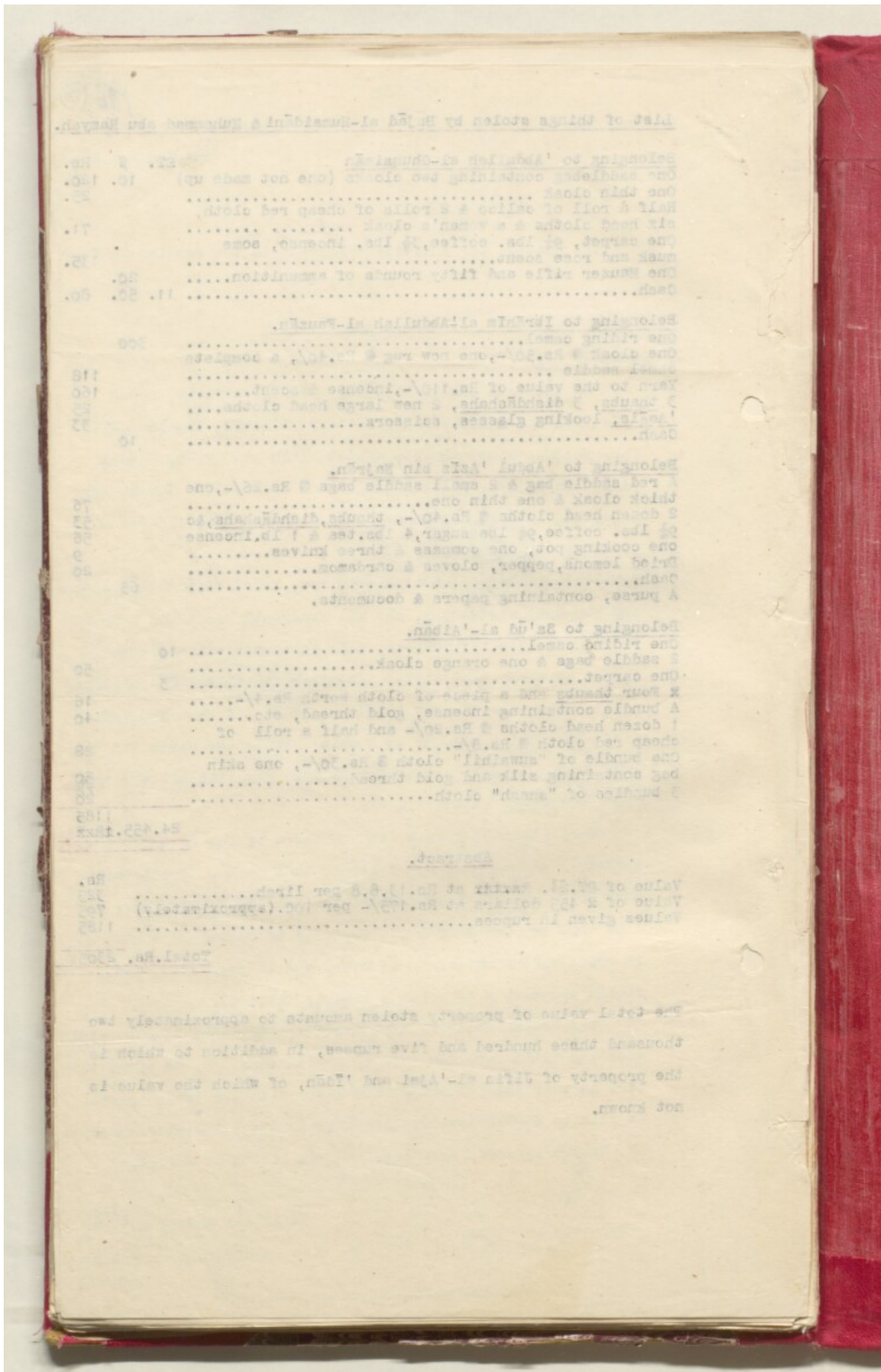
One riding camel.....	10	
2 saddle bags & one orange cloak.....		50
One carpet.....	3	
4 Four thaubs and a piece of cloth worth Rs.4/-.....		16
A bundle containing incense, gold thread, etc.....		40
1 dozen head cloths @ Rs.20/- and half a roll of cheap red cloth @ Rs.8/-.....		28
One bundle of "suwailil" cloth @ Rs.30/-, one skin bag containing silk and gold thread.....		50
3 bundles of "shash" cloth.....		20
		1185
		24,455.28x2

Abstract.

Value of ST.24. Rxxxx at Rs.13,8.8 per liras.....	Rs.
Value of £ 455 dollars at Rs.175/- per 100. (approximately)	325
Values given in rupees.....	795
	1185

Total, Rs. 2305

The total value of property stolen amounts to approximately two thousand three hundred and five rupees, in addition to which is the property of Jifin al-'Ajmi and 'Idān, of which the value is not known.





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL. 177 (17)

No. 105-3. Political Agency, Kuwait.
30th April 1925.

BUEN RESIDENCE
Reg. No. 487
Date 6.5.25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

S.L. "Mishrif"

MEMORANDUM.

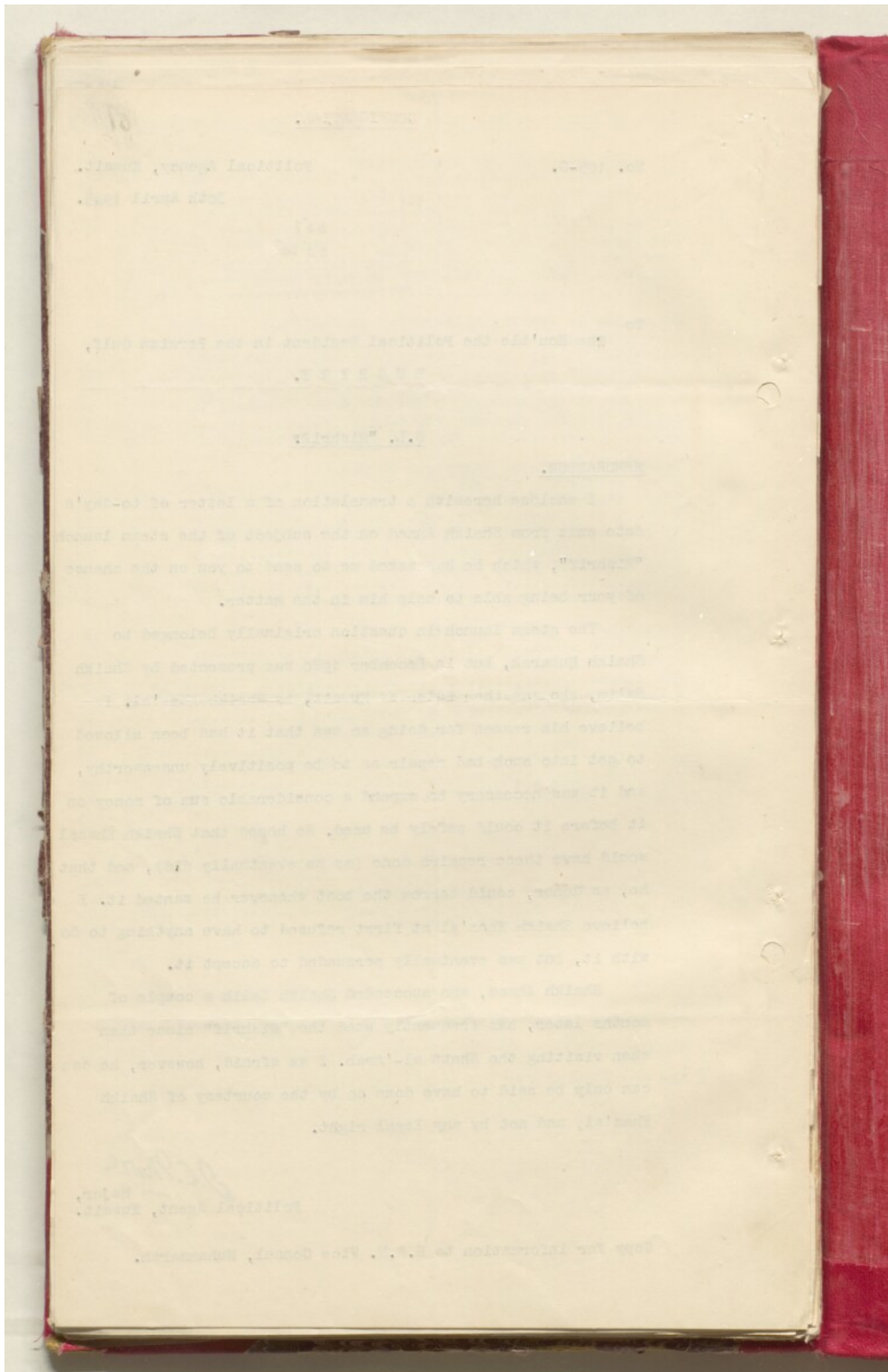
I enclose herewith a translation of a letter of to-day's date ~~maxi~~ from Shaikh Ahmad on the subject of the steam launch "Mishrif", which he has asked me to send to you on the chance of your being able to help him in the matter.

The steam launch in question originally belonged to Shaikh Mubarak, but in December 1920 was presented by Shaikh Salim, who was then Ruler of Kuwait, to Shaikh Khaz'al. I believe his reason for doing so was that it had been allowed to get into such bad repair as to be positively unseaworthy, and it was necessary to expend a considerable sum of money on it before it could safely be used. He hoped that Shaikh Khaz'al would have these repairs done (as he eventually did), and that he, as donor, could borrow the boat whenever he wanted it. I believe Shaikh Khaz'al at first refused to have anything to do with it, but was eventually persuaded to accept it.

Shaikh Ahmad, who succeeded Shaikh Salim a couple of months later, has frequently used the "Mishrif" since then when visiting the Shatt al-'Arab. I am afraid, however, he can only be said to have done so by the courtesy of Shaikh Khaz'al, and not by any legal right.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy for information to H.B.M. Vice Consul, Muhammarah.





178⁽¹²⁾

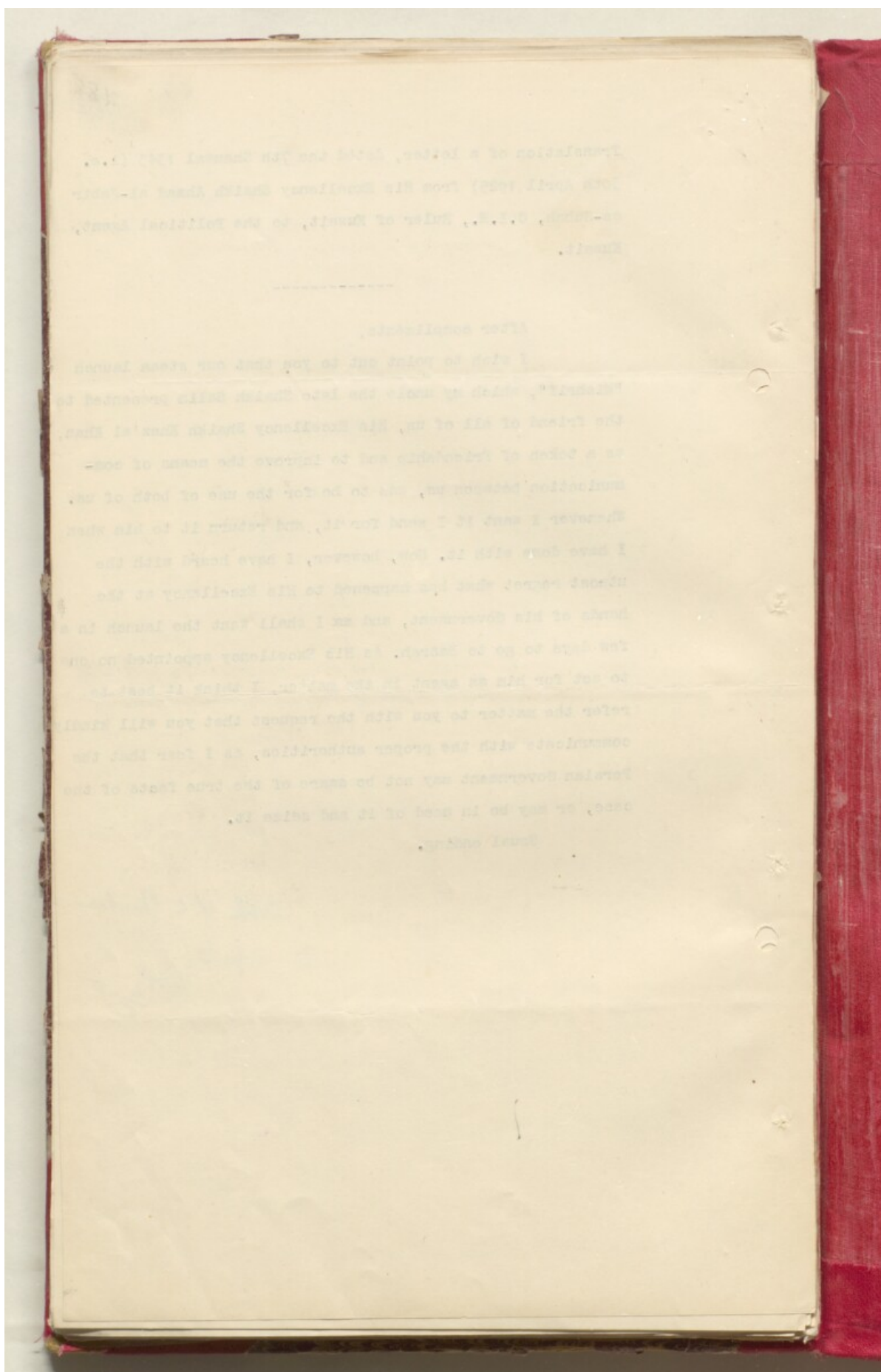
Translation of a letter, dated the 7th Shawwal 1343 (i.e. 30th April 1925) from His Excellency Shaikh Ahmad al-Jabir as-Subah, C.I.E., Ruler of Kuwait, to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

After compliments,

I wish to point out to you that our steam launch "Mishrif", which my uncle the late Shaikh Salim presented to the friend of all of us, His Excellency Shaikh Khaz'al Khan, as a token of friendship and to improve the means of communication between us, was to be for the use of both of us. Whenever I want it I send for it, and return it to him when I have done with it. Now, however, I have heard with the utmost regret what has happened to His Excellency at the hands of his Government, and ~~as~~ I shall want the launch in a few days to go to Basrah. As His Excellency appointed no one to act for him as agent in the matter, I think it best to refer the matter to you with the request that you will kindly communicate with the proper authorities, as I fear that the Persian Government may not be aware of the true facts of the case, or may be in need of it and seize it.

Usual ending.

ask V.C. Muhammad
to report.
4/28/25
6/25
5





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 148-S.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire 8th May 1925.

To

The British Vice-Consul,
Muhammerah.

S. L. "MISHRIF".

MEMORANDUM.

With reference to Kuwait Memorandum, No. 105-S.,
dated the 30th April, a copy of which was sent to you direct,
please submit a report for the information of the Political
Resident.

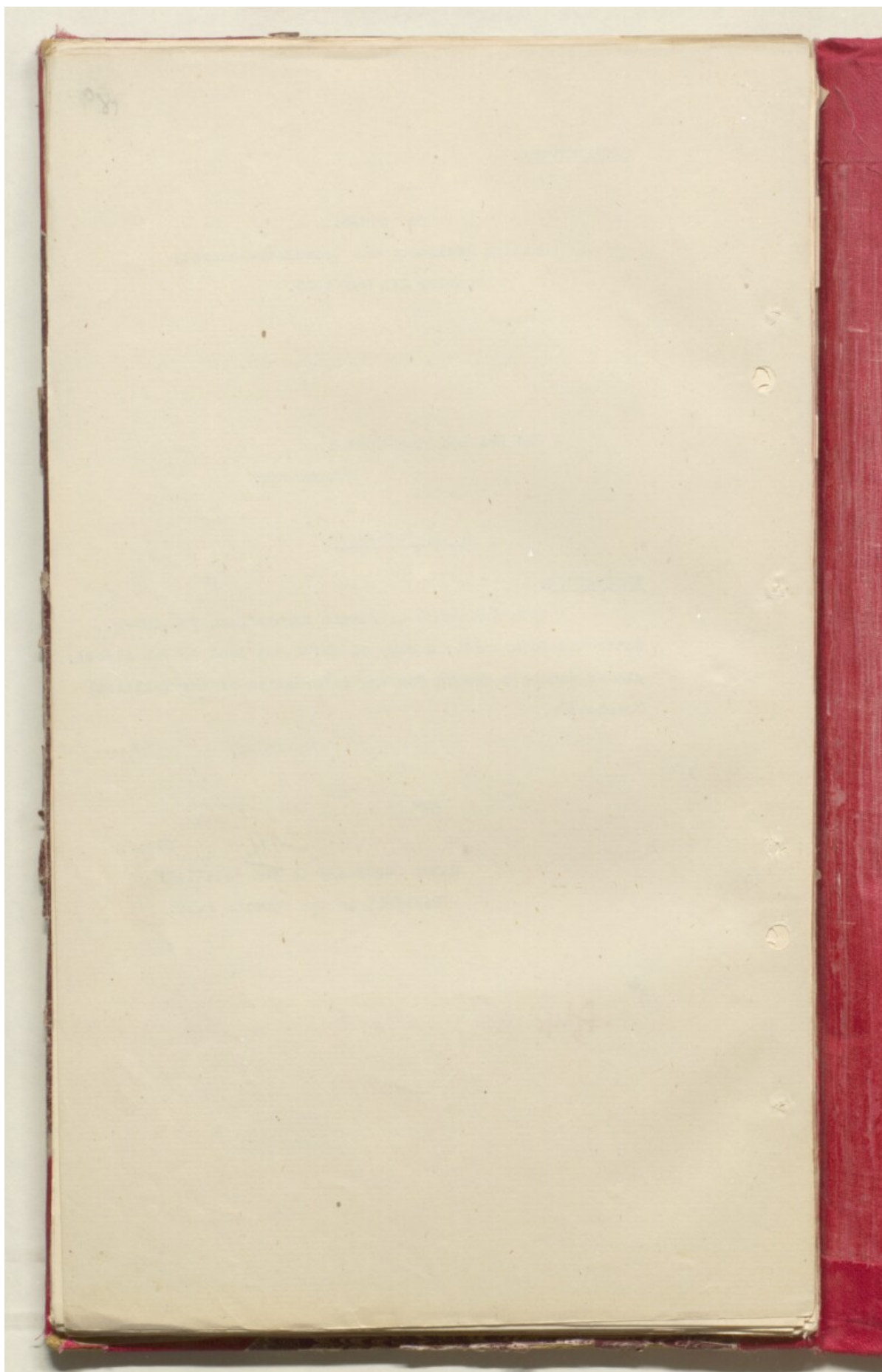
By order,

cc

Capt.,

Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

je
B/1/15





53/32

189 (174)

No. 2/25/ 2649

British Vice-Consulate,
Muhammara, 16th May 1925.

CONFIDENTIAL

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 509
Date 21.5.25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Under Secretary to the
Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
Bushire.

Memorandum. S.L. "MISHRIF".

Reference your Memorandum No. 148-S, dated the
8th May 1925.

I have discussed the question with Snaikh
Abdullah s/o Shaikh Khazal and he suggests that Snaikh
Ahmad should write to him, if he requires the boat for a
trip to Basrah, as he has been appointed representative and
Agent of the Snaikh during the latter's absence.

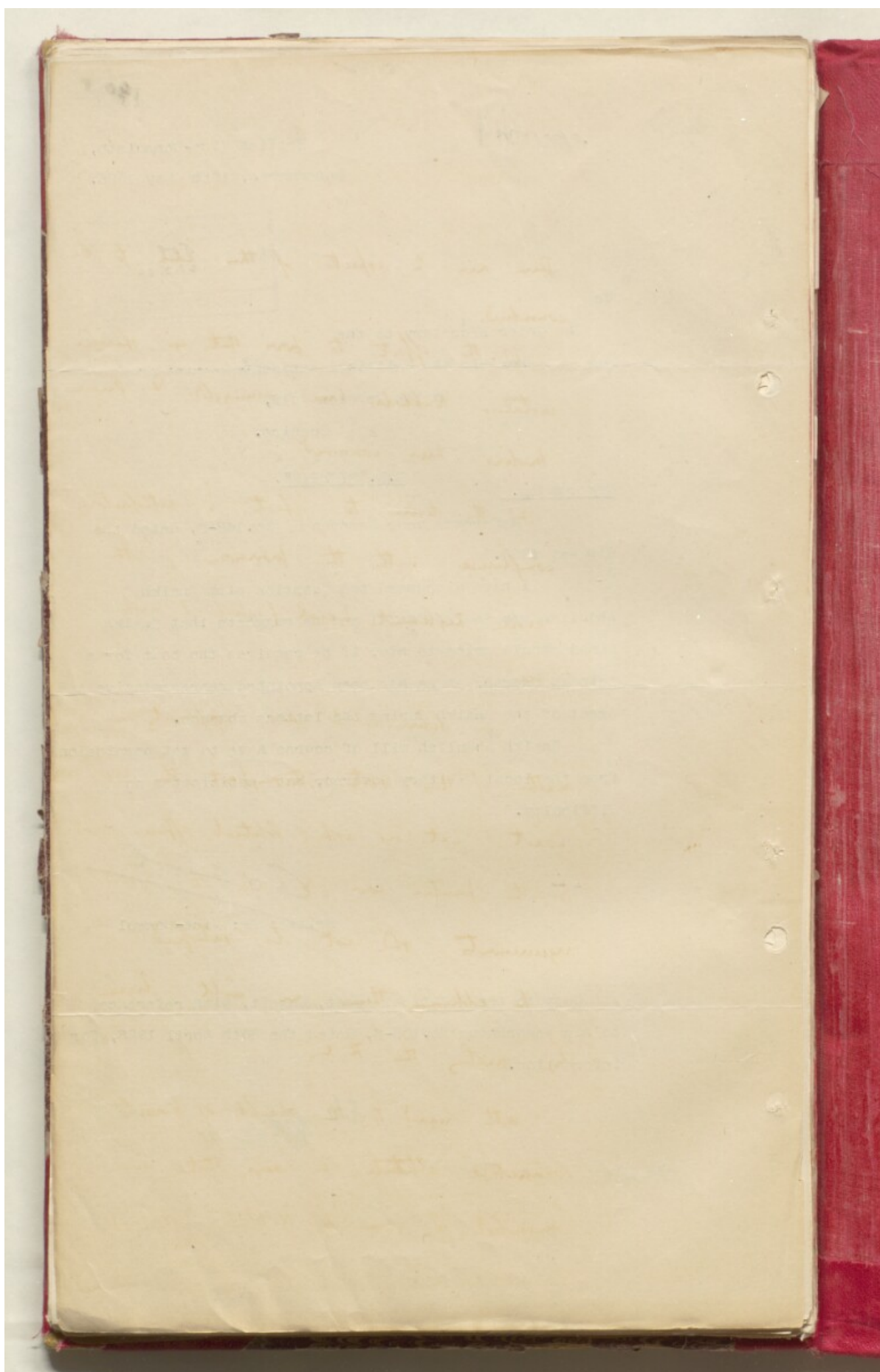
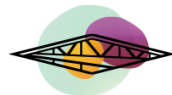
Snaikh Abdullah will of course have to get permission
from the local Military Governor, but anticipates no
difficulty.

C. Smith
British Agt. Vice-Consul

Copy to the Political Agent, Kuwait, with reference
to his Memorandum No. 105-S, dated the 30th April 1925, for
information.

File 53/32 III (D 53) Kuwait - Miscellaneous

13/2/15





180-a
(175)
Letter No. 474, dated 7th Tir 1304 (28-6-25) from
the Karguzar of the Gulf Ports, asking for copies
of certain manifests issued by the Kuwait Customs.

(Filed at p. 59, Town file 36/82).

There are 2 aspects of this case to be
considered

(1) the effort to prove that in specific
instances Nakhodas have smuggled & Persian
Merchies have connived

(2) the desire to effect a satisfactory
compliance with the provisions of the
Persian Reglement Legal (which I wish to
see.

Our desire is to see conformity in a
matter of this sort throughout the Arab
Coast. Let us ask British officers what
is the practice now & why the Persian
requirements are not be satisfied.

In addressing them we will begin
by quoting the R. L.

with regard to the Shaikh of Kuwait's
obstructive attitude. He says that one
manifest is given to Nakhodas. Am I



to understand that no other copy is kept?
 If it is, to refuse a duplicate is futile.
 If it is not, to issue a Manifest, which
 he knows that the boat generally goes to
 another port or ports than those named,
 is useless.

If the Persian authorities are not helped,
 they can of course make all sorts of
 difficulties such as furnishing vessels for issuing
 from unaccommodating ports, & on last state
 will be worse than our first.

Bahrain apparently was discouraged from
 helping by Colonel Trevor!

Let us see what Muscat does or
 is prepared to do, & then we will ask
 the other States to conform.

B

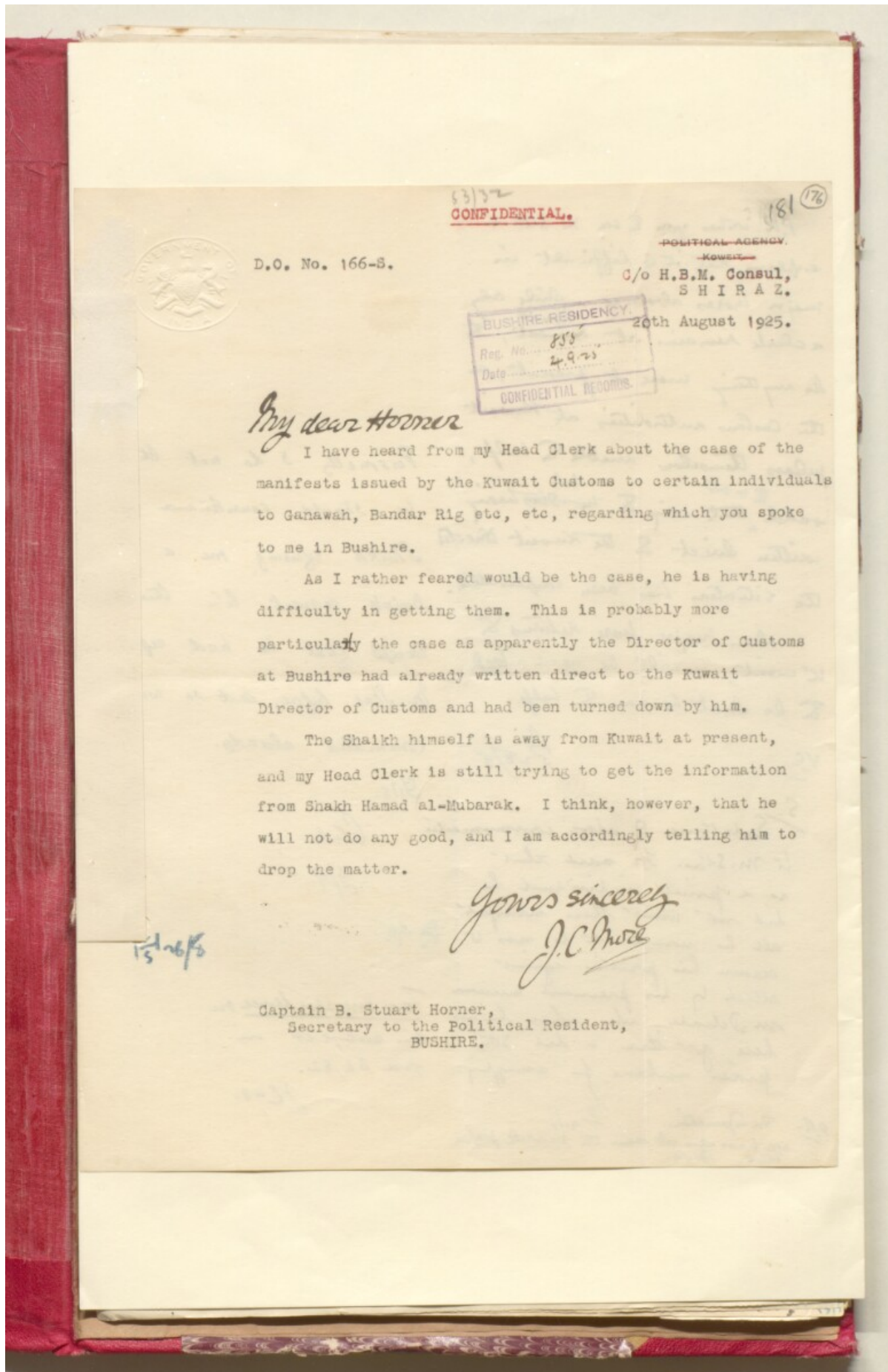
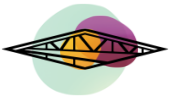
4/11/28/21

Please add copy of Reglement legal + draft C
 P.A. Muscat, in lines indicated at A+B of P.R.'s
 etc dated 27/2/25. 13/1/28/21

cc.

Reglement legal and draft put up.

Draft to P.A. Muscat submitted. Please also P.R.'s
 see Ref. 43 of the Reglement legal. - Also Major Wore's O/O
 letter to me, just received. 13/6/21
 P.R.



D.O. No. 166-S.

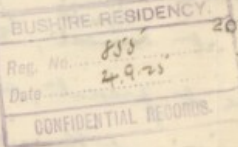
CONFIDENTIAL.

POLITICAL AGENCY.

KOWEIT.

C/o H.B.M. Consul,
SHIRAZ.

20th August 1925.



My dear Horner

I have heard from my Head Clerk about the case of the manifests issued by the Kuwait Customs to certain individuals to Ganawah, Bandar Rig etc, etc, regarding which you spoke to me in Bushire.

As I rather feared would be the case, he is having difficulty in getting them. This is probably more particularly the case as apparently the Director of Customs at Bushire had already written direct to the Kuwait Director of Customs and had been turned down by him.

The Shaikh himself is away from Kuwait at present, and my Head Clerk is still trying to get the information from Shakh Hamad al-Mubarak. I think, however, that he will not do any good, and I am accordingly telling him to drop the matter.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

Captain B. Stuart Horner,
Secretary to the Political Resident,
BUSHIRE.

15/12/65

475.

 \sqrt{c}

17/5/28/8

Car

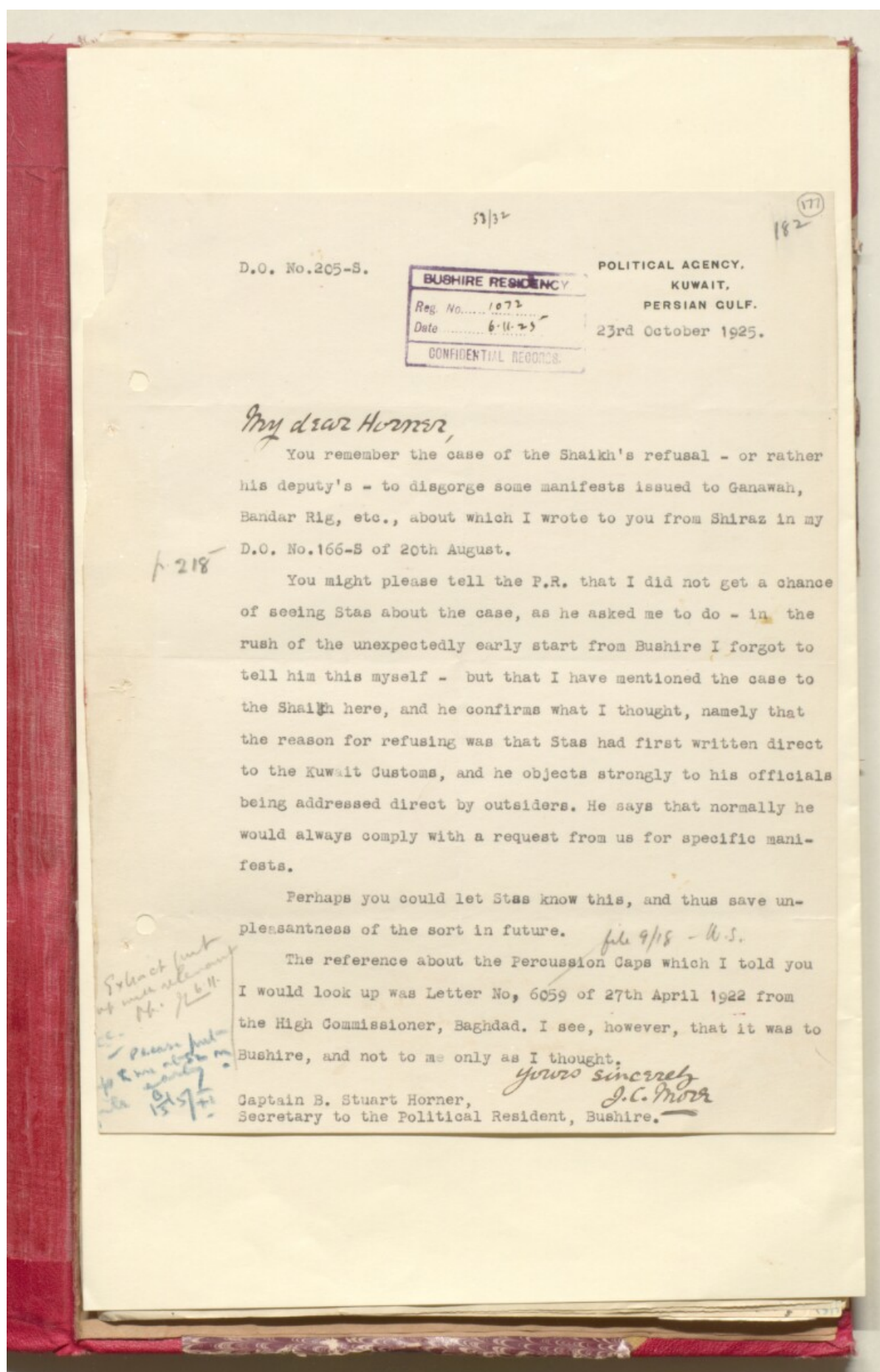
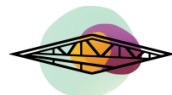
2/9.

5/29

Town correspondence on
this subject in
file 36/82.

2C49.

P.R. For information. $2 \frac{31}{8}$
you have also not seen the second paper
below. 17/1/9



D.O. No. 205-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY	
Reg. No.	1072
Date	6-11-25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS	

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.
23rd October 1925.

My dear Horner,

You remember the case of the Shaikh's refusal - or rather his deputy's - to disgorge some manifests issued to Ganawah, Bandar Rig, etc., about which I wrote to you from Shiraz in my D.O. No. 166-S of 20th August.

You might please tell the P.R. that I did not get a chance of seeing Stas about the case, as he asked me to do - in the rush of the unexpectedly early start from Bushire I forgot to tell him this myself - but that I have mentioned the case to the Shaikh here, and he confirms what I thought, namely that the reason for refusing was that Stas had first written direct to the Kuwait Customs, and he objects strongly to his officials being addressed direct by outsiders. He says that normally he would always comply with a request from us for specific manifests.

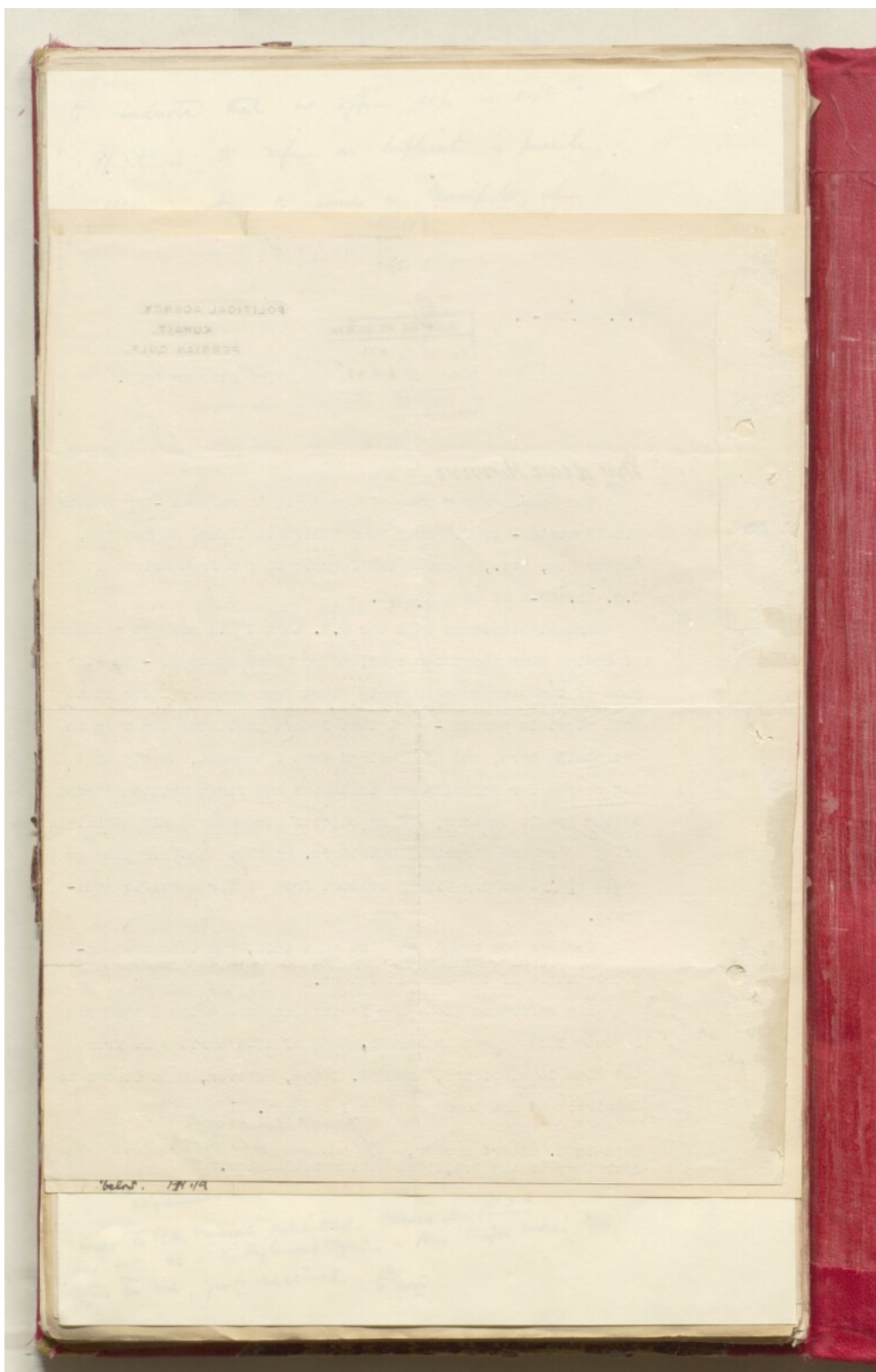
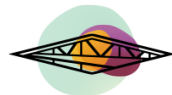
Perhaps you could let Stas know this, and thus save unpleasantness of the sort in future.

The reference about the Percussion Caps which I told you I would look up was Letter No. 6059 of 27th April 1922 from the High Commissioner, Baghdad. I see, however, that it was to Bushire, and not to me only as I thought.

Captain B. Stuart Horner,
Secretary to the Political Resident, Bushire.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

*Extract from
not under reference
No. 126 H.
cc -
- please find
for B. Stuart Horner
15/1/26*





53/32
172
183

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 462-S of 1925.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 8th December 1925.

To

The Political Agent,

Muscat.

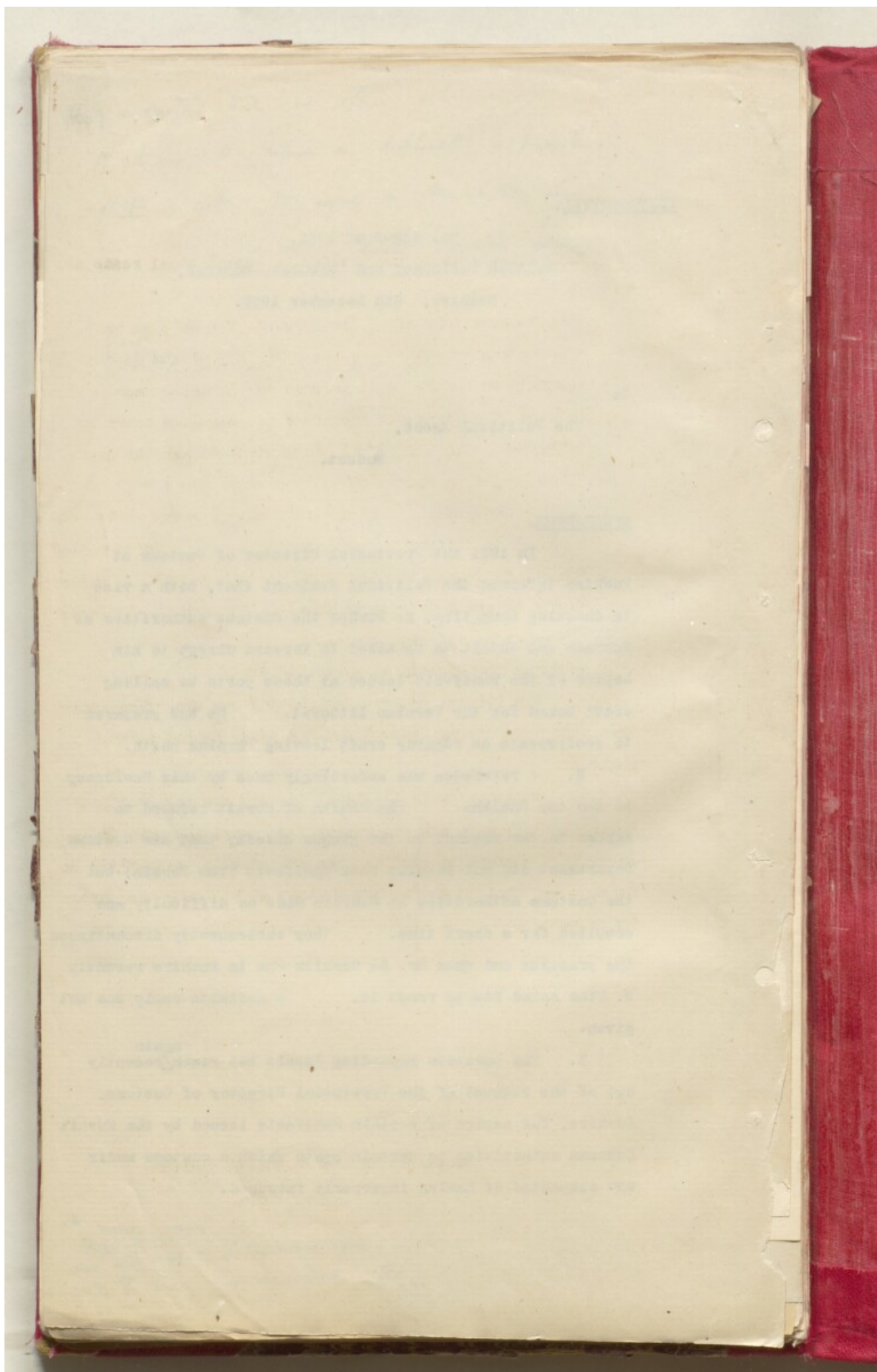
MEMORANDUM.

In 1921 the Provincial Director of Customs at Bushire informed the Political Resident that, with a view to checking smuggling, he wished the Customs authorities at Bahrain and Kuwait to be asked to forward direct to him copies of the manifests issued at those ports to sailing craft bound for the Persian littoral. He was prepared to reciprocate as regards craft leaving Persian ports.

2. A reference was accordingly made by this Residency to the two Shaikhs. The Shaikh of Kuwait refused to accede to the request on the ground chiefly that his Customs Department did not require such manifests from Persia; but the Customs authorities at Bahrain made no difficulty and complied for a short time. They subsequently discontinued the practice and when Mr. De Grenier was in Bushire recently M. Stas asked him to renew it. A definite reply was not given.

3. The question regarding Kuwait has risen ^{again} recently out of the request of the Provincial Director of Customs, Bushire, for copies of certain manifests issued by the Kuwait Customs authorities to certain boats which a customs mudir was suspected of having improperly favoured.

4.





4. Article 43 of the Persian Règlement Légal reads as follows :-

"Immediately after the arrival of a ship or boat,
"and before commencing to discharge any of the goods, the
"captain or master shall forward to the local ~~customs~~ coll-
"ector of customs the duplicate declarations drawn up
"conformably to Article 40, in respect of all the goods
"that he has on board, and at the same time a copy of the
"ship's manifest. If the ship should carry goods con-
"-signed to different ports, the fact should be mentioned
"in the declarations aforesaid, and the captain or master
"shall be required also to furnish, at each of the ports
"at which he touches, a separate declaration for the
goods to be unloaded at such port."

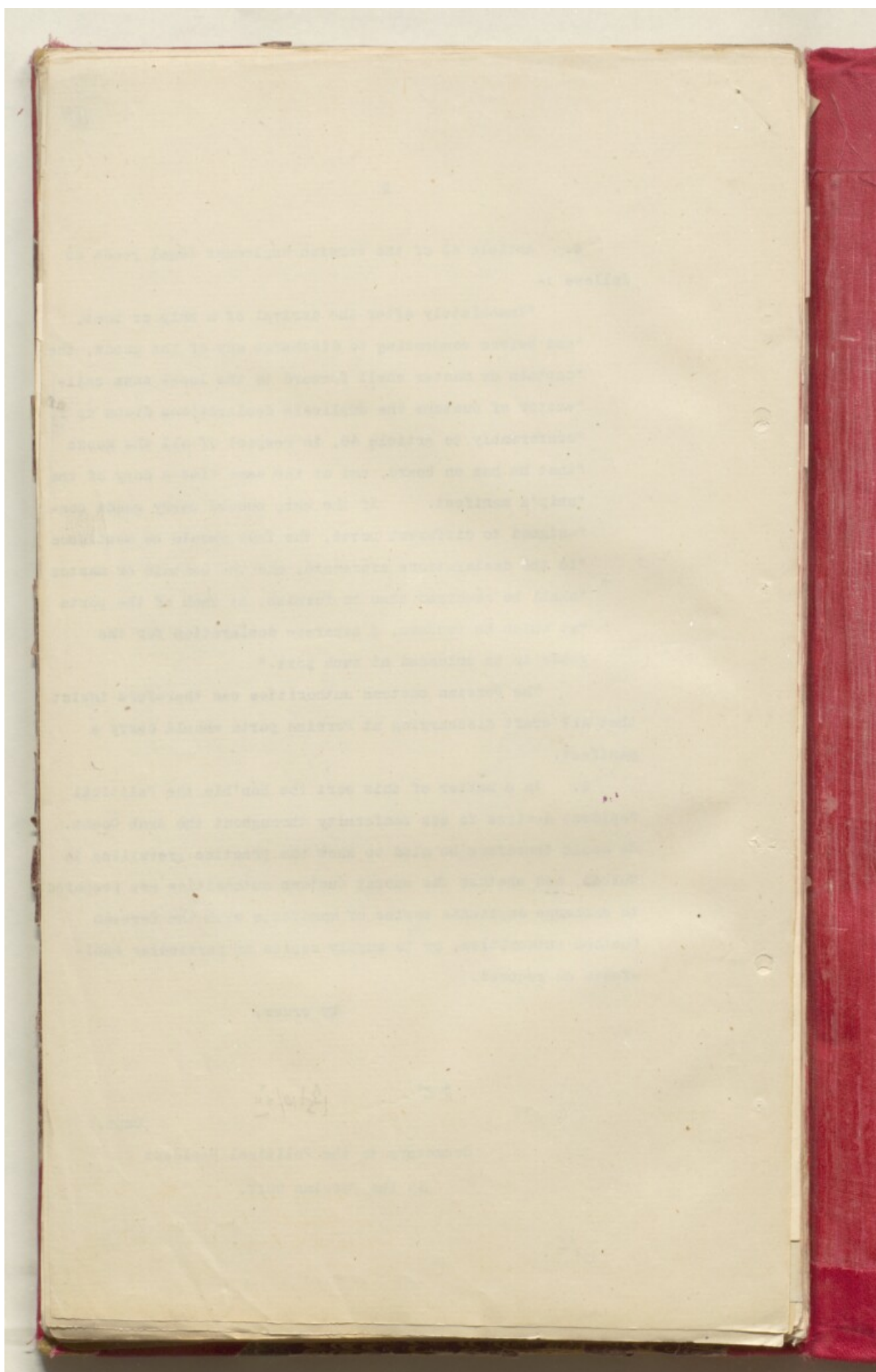
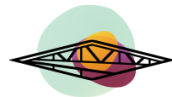
The Persian customs authorities can therefore insist
that all craft discharging at Persian ports should carry a
manifest.

5. In a matter of this sort the Hon'ble the Political
Resident desires to see conformity throughout the Arab Coast.
He would therefore be glad to know the practice prevailing in
Muscat, and whether the Muscat Customs authorities are prepared
to exchange duplicate copies of manifests with the Persian
Customs authorities, or to supply copies of particular mani-
-fests on request.

By order,

Secretary to the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf.

Capt.,





Confidential.

No. 100

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 9
Date 8-1-26
CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

(192)

Political Agency and British Consulate,
Muscat the 26th December 1925.

From
Lieut.Colonel C.G.Crosthwaite, C.B.E.,
Political Agent and H.B.M's Consul,
Muscat,

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble
the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
BUSHIRE.

Memorandum.

183

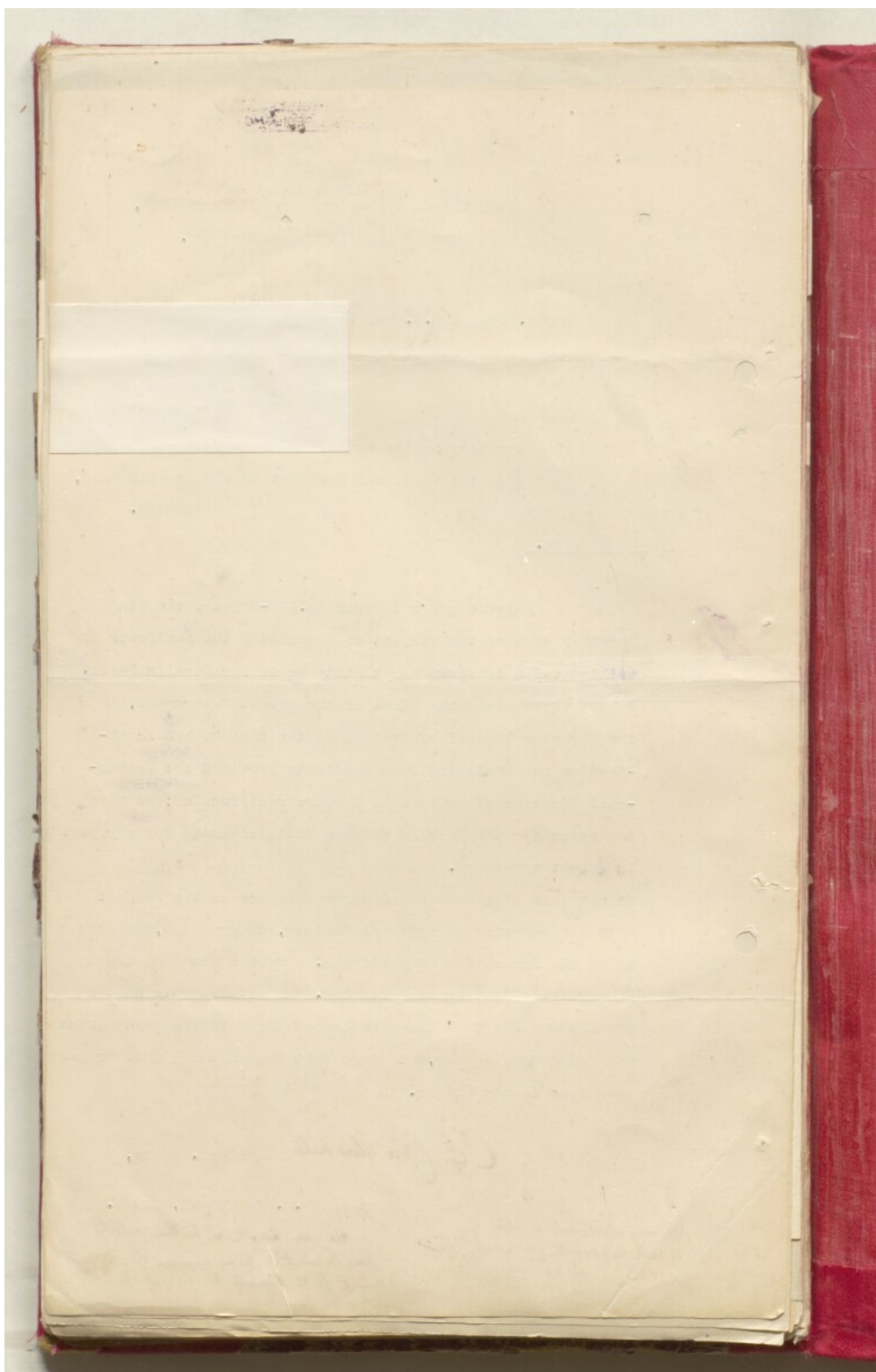
Please refer to your No.462-S dated the 8th December 1925 on the subject of furnishing the manifests of sailing ships leaving Muscat State ports for Persian Ports. I have ascertained the views of the Muscat Government, and the Director General of Customs states that he has no objection to furnishing such manifests provided the Provincial Director of Customs at Bushire reciprocates, and gives manifests for all Persian sailing boats clearing for any port in Muscat territory.

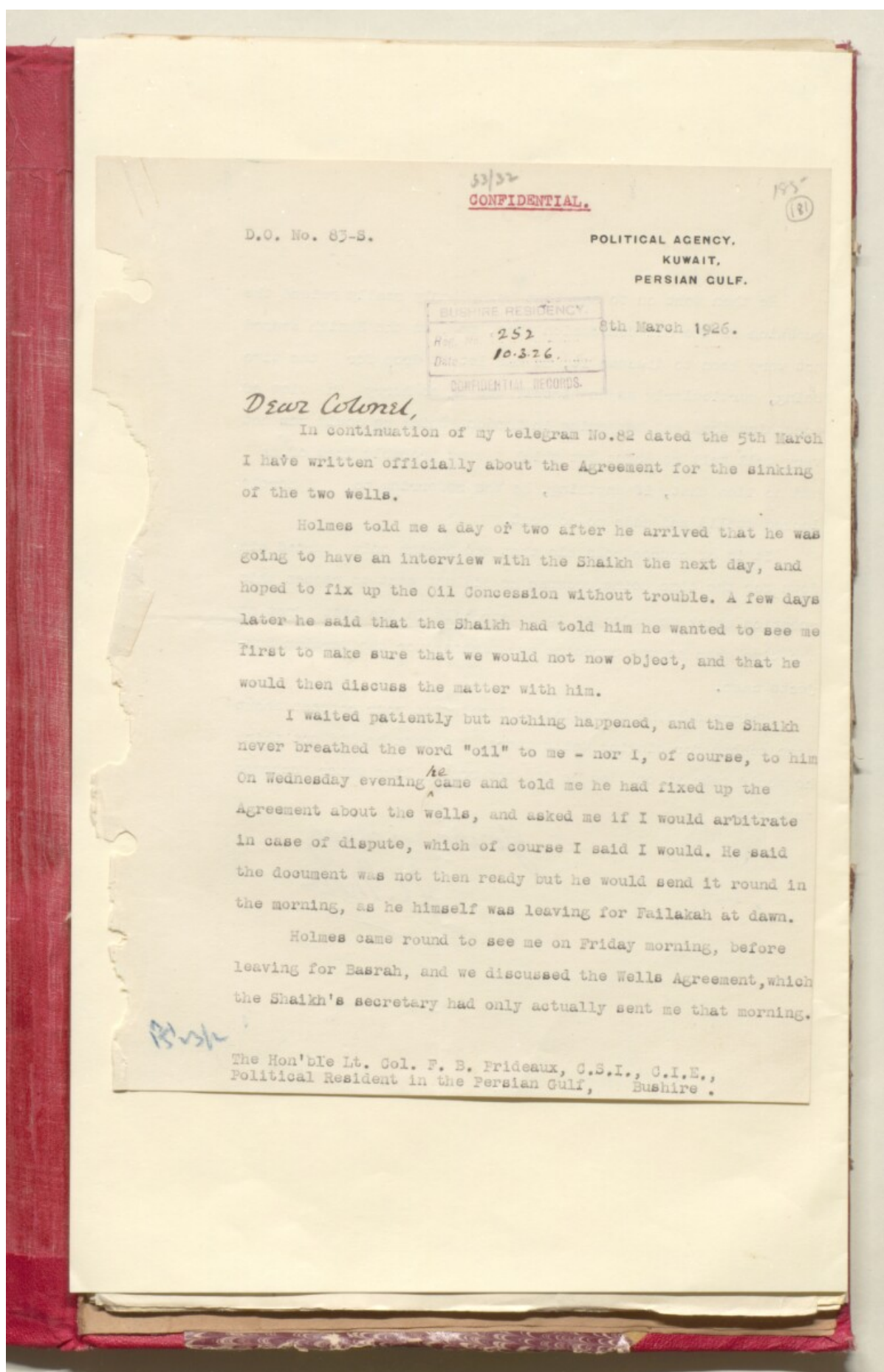
He mentions that he has had correspondence on the subject with the Director of Imperial Customs, Bunder Abbas, who also asked him for copies of manifests. He agreed provided the Bunder Abbas Customs reciprocated. The latter wrote on the 25th March 1924 that the sanction of their Tehran Head Office was being applied for, but since that date nothing further has been done in the matter.

C.G. (in this file) Lieut.Colone,
Political Agent and H.B.M's Consul, Muscat.

You may wish to ask M. Stead if he will reciprocate generally before settling finally? 13/1/26

We can await a further report from Muscat. It is his opinion it is very difficult for the Persian to reciprocate, as boats come from many small ports. 7/1/26





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL.

D.O. No. 83-S.

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY	
Reg. No.	252
Date	10.3.26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

8th March 1926.

Dear Colonel,

In continuation of my telegram No. 82 dated the 5th March I have written officially about the Agreement for the sinking of the two wells.

Holmes told me a day or two after he arrived that he was going to have an interview with the Shaikh the next day, and hoped to fix up the Oil Concession without trouble. A few days later he said that the Shaikh had told him he wanted to see me first to make sure that we would not now object, and that he would then discuss the matter with him.

I waited patiently but nothing happened, and the Shaikh never breathed the word "oil" to me - nor I, of course, to him. On Wednesday evening ^{he} came and told me he had fixed up the Agreement about the wells, and asked me if I would arbitrate in case of dispute, which of course I said I would. He said the document was not then ready but he would send it round in the morning, as he himself was leaving for Failakah at dawn.

Holmes came round to see me on Friday morning, before leaving for Basrah, and we discussed the Wells Agreement, which the Shaikh's secretary had only actually sent me that morning.

B-24
The Hon'ble Lt. Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

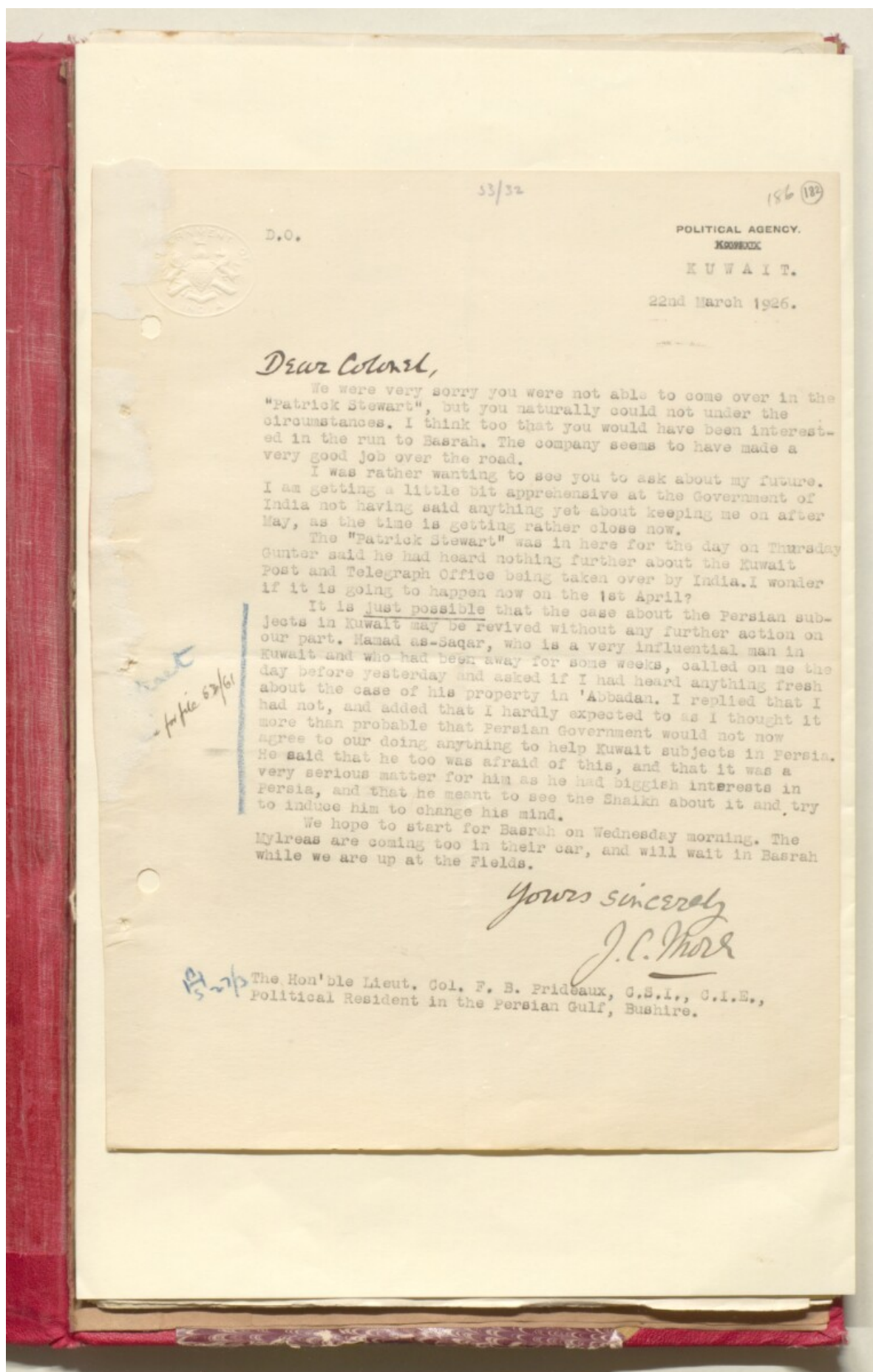


He then went on to say that he had only really raised the question of the Oil Concession once, and, as the Shaikh seemed not very keen to discuss it, he had let it drop for the time being, particularly as he himself was in no hurry in view of something that was happening in London, which he could ~~xxx~~ not very well tell me about but which I very probably knew of. As I had no idea what, if anything, he was referring to, I merely looked stolid and made no comment.

It is of course possible that the Shaikh only turned him down for the time being, because he did not want to reopen this question which we objected to so strongly in the past just at the time when he was opposing our wishes over the Persian Subjects case.

Holmes said he was going to Bushire at your request about some scheme for sinking wells there, but that he did not think he would take it on, as he did not really like water schemes anywhere.

*Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore*



D.O.

POLITICAL AGENCY.

KUWAIT.

KUWAIT.

22nd March 1926.

Dear Colonel,

We were very sorry you were not able to come over in the "Patrick Stewart", but you naturally could not under the circumstances. I think too that you would have been interested in the run to Basrah. The company seems to have made a very good job over the road.

I was rather wanting to see you to ask about my future. I am getting a little bit apprehensive at the Government of India not having said anything yet about keeping me on after May, as the time is getting rather close now.

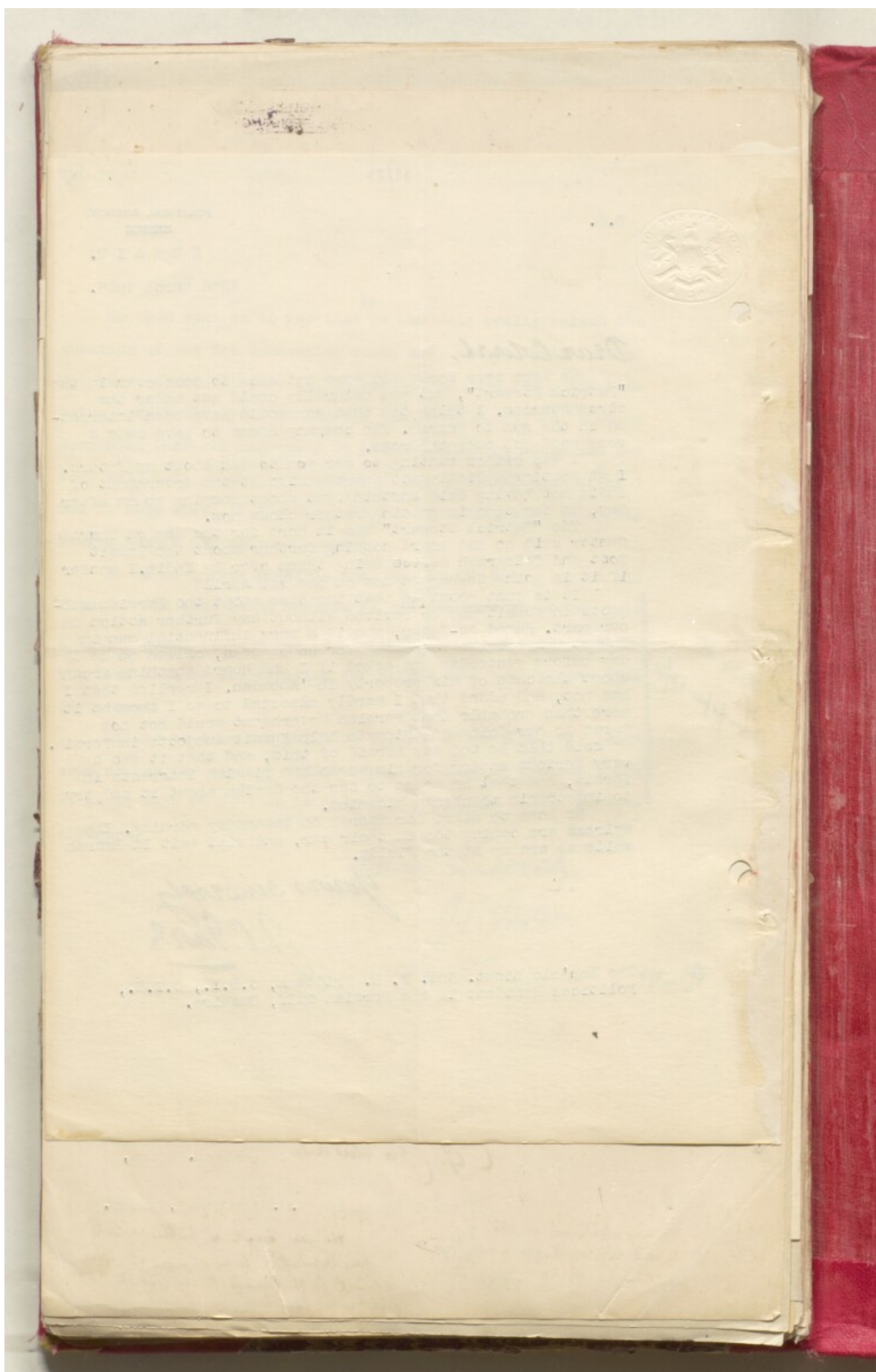
The "Patrick Stewart" was in here for the day on Thursday. Gunter said he had heard nothing further about the Kuwait Post and Telegraph Office being taken over by India. I wonder if it is going to happen now on the 1st April?

It is just possible that the case about the Persian subjects in Kuwait may be revived without any further action on our part. Hamad as-Saqar, who is a very influential man in Kuwait and who had been away for some weeks, called on me the day before yesterday and asked if I had heard anything fresh about the case of his property in 'Abbadan. I replied that I had not, and added that I hardly expected to as I thought it more than probable that Persian Government would not now agree to our doing anything to help Kuwait subjects in Persia. He said that he too was afraid of this, and that it was a very serious matter for him as he had biggish interests in Persia, and that he meant to see the Shaikh about it and try to induce him to change his mind.

We hope to start for Basrah on Wednesday morning. The Mylreas are coming too in their car, and will wait in Basrah while we are up at the Fields.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

13-7/26 The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. F. B. Frideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.





53/32
197 (183)

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 150-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
10th July 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg. No.	669/13
Date	14/7/26.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

Desert News.

MEMORANDUM.

On the 5th July about seventy five Kuwait camels were stolen while grazing at Quhaililah, twenty four miles west-south-west of Jahrah, by a party consisting of 'Ali Abu Shuwairibāt and another Mutairi and seven men of the 'Anizah.

When news of the above reached Jahrah, a party was sent in pursuit, which however failed to come up with the robbers, although it succeeded in recovering some thirty of the weaker camels, which were not able to keep up.

The incident was a very disgraceful one, as the seven 'Anizah had just left Kuwait, where they had been enjoying the hospitality of Shaikh Ahmad for some time. The men had formed the vanguard of Karab bin Madhdhāl's party which raided the Dharīr at Rumailah on the 17th June and had been cut off from the main body of the 'Anizah. They came into Kuwait and claimed Ibn Subāh's protection on the strength of his 'Anizah blood. The Shaikh received them in his madhif and gave them the usual presents. 'Ali Abu Shuwairibāt and the other Mutairi had not been in Kuwait, but apparently joined the seven near Jahrah.

It is expected that Ibn Mijlād, whose men the 'Anizah were, will have the camels restored when he hears of the incident.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy to the Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner, Baghdad.
" " " Administrative Inspector, Basrah.
" " " Administrative Inspector, Nasiriyah.

*Eriny +
File Hussein
15/14/26
15/7/26*





(Copy)

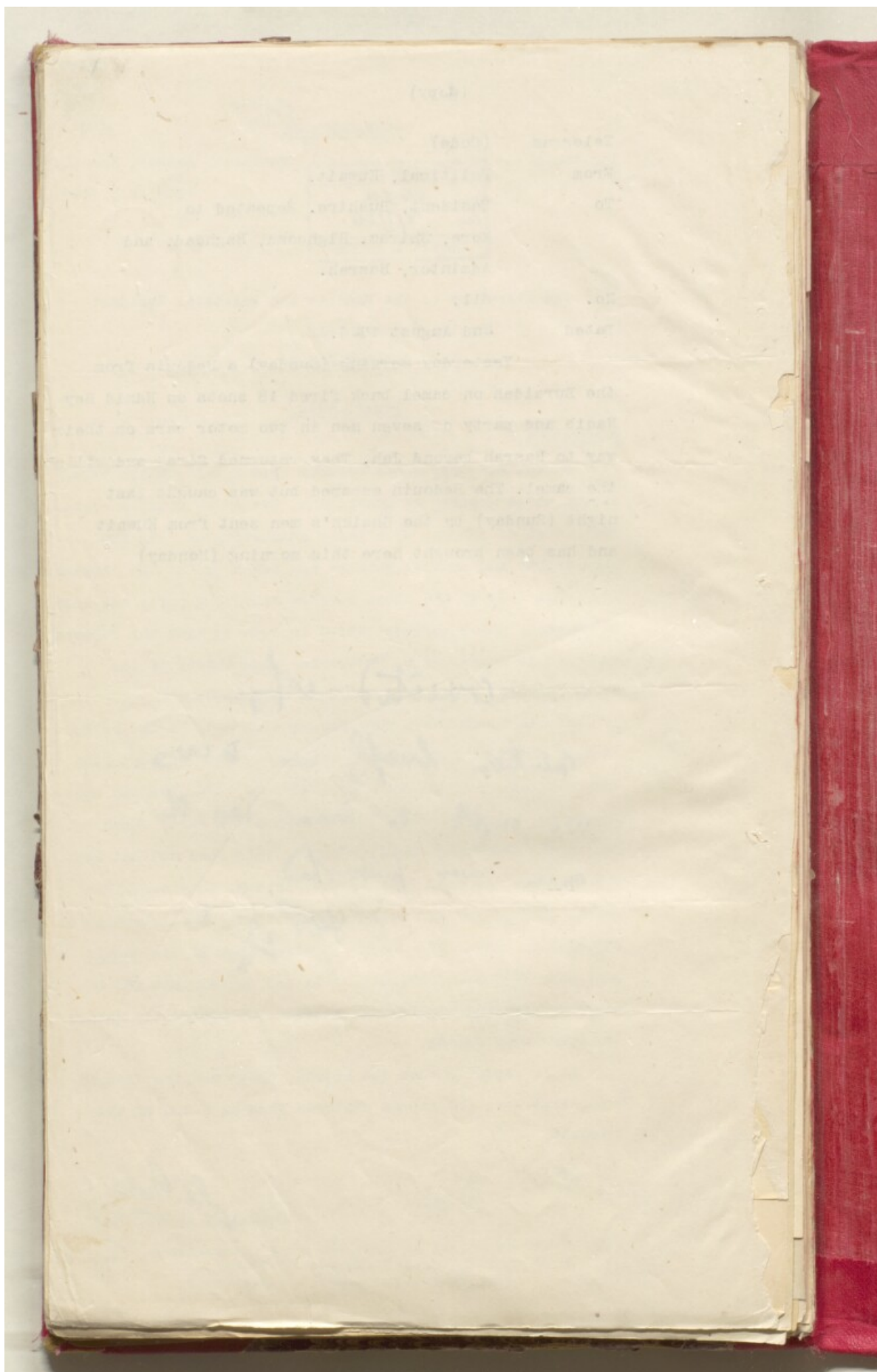
114
188

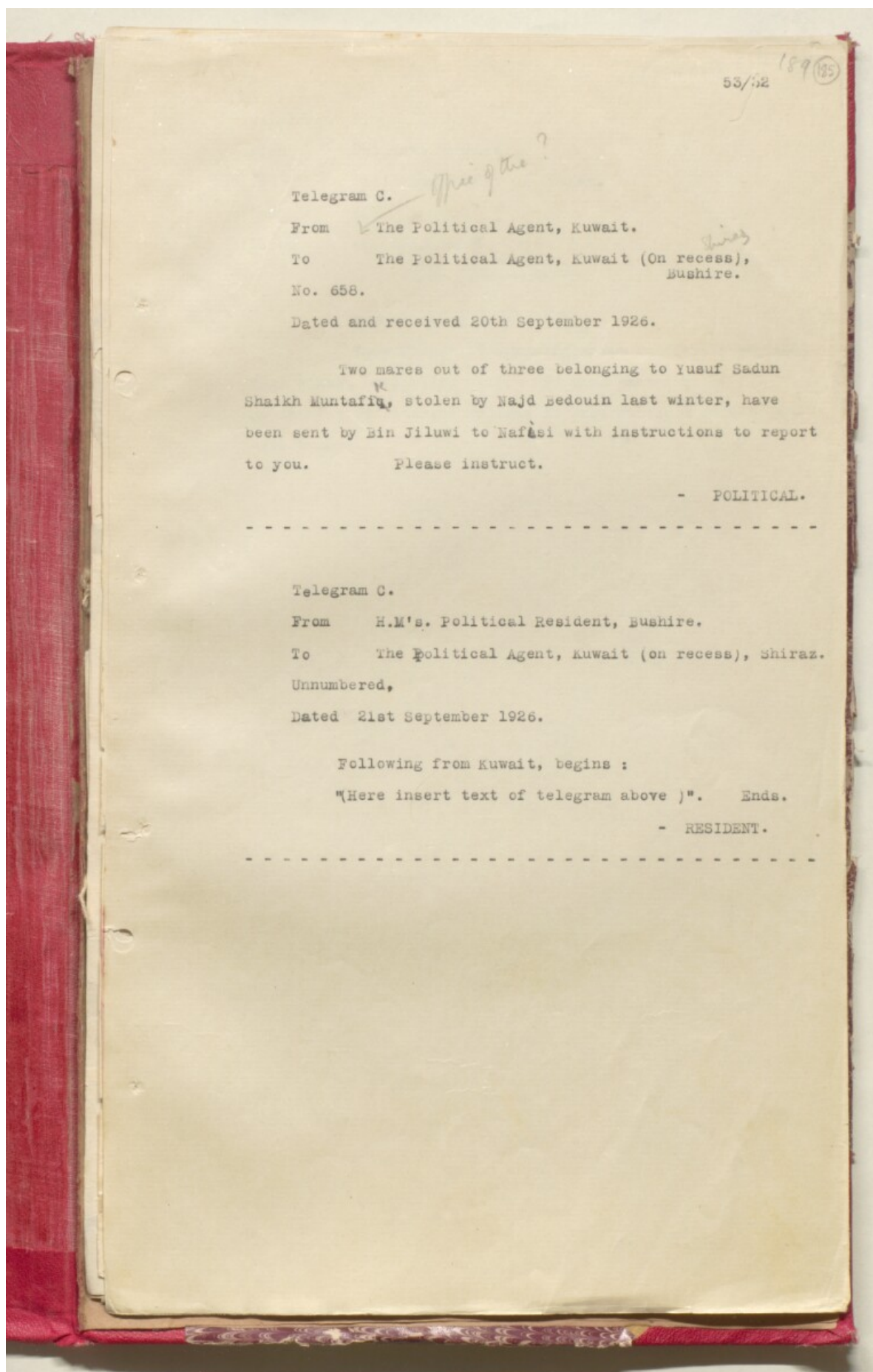
Telegram (Code)
From Political, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire. Repeated to
More, Shiraz. Highcoma, Baghdad. and
Admintor, Basrah.
No. 611.
Dated 2nd August 1926.

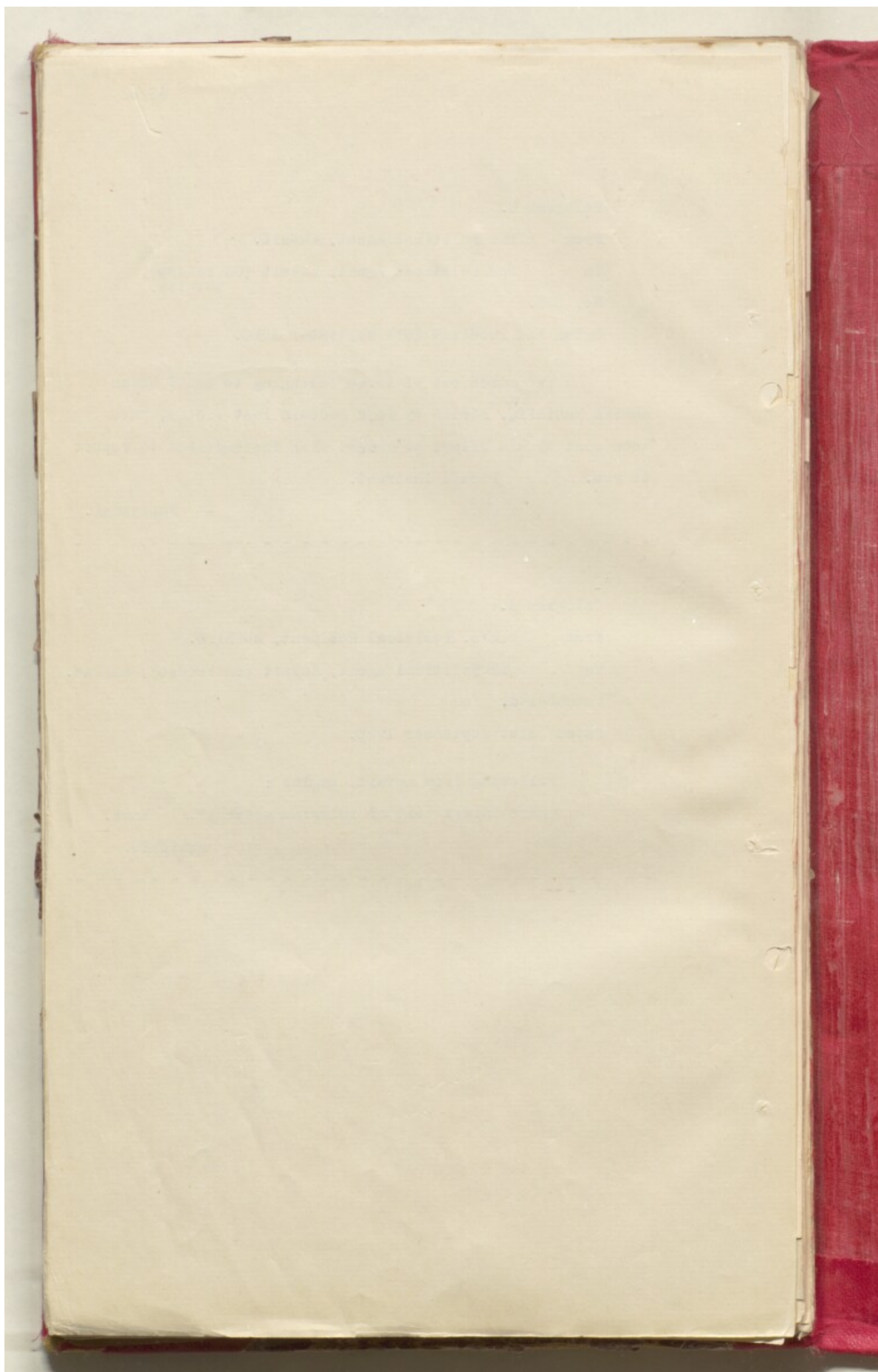
Yesterday morning (Sunday) a Bedouin from
the Buraidah on camel back fired 18 shots on Hamid Bey
Naqib and party of seven men in two motor cars on their
way to Basrah beyond Jah. They returned fire and killed
the camel. The Bedouin escaped but was caught last
night (Sunday) by the Shaikh's men sent from Kuwait
and has been brought here this morning (Monday)

corrected copy.
mention brief in Diary.
We ought to have known the
man was punished.

700 28-6
4





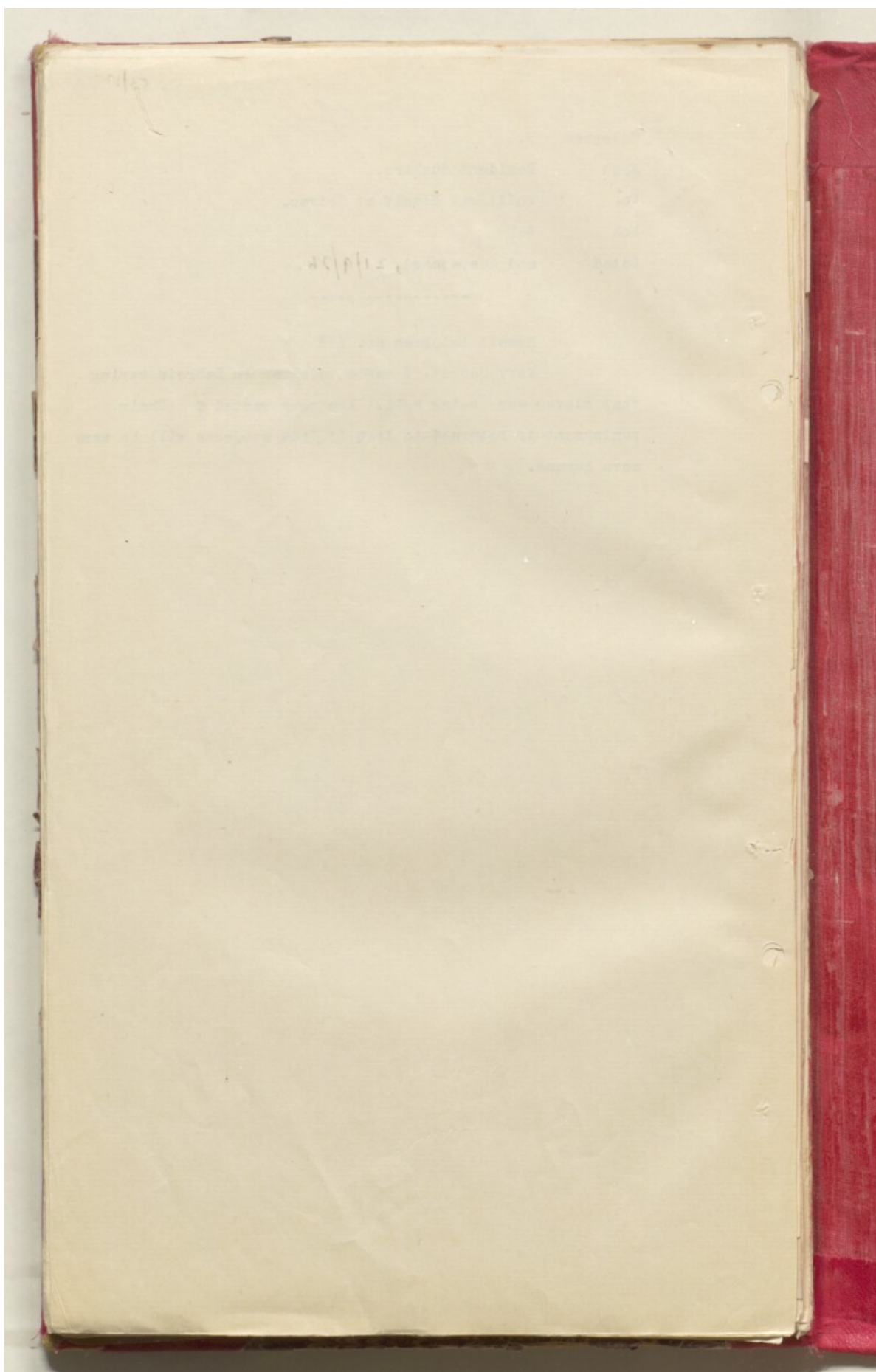


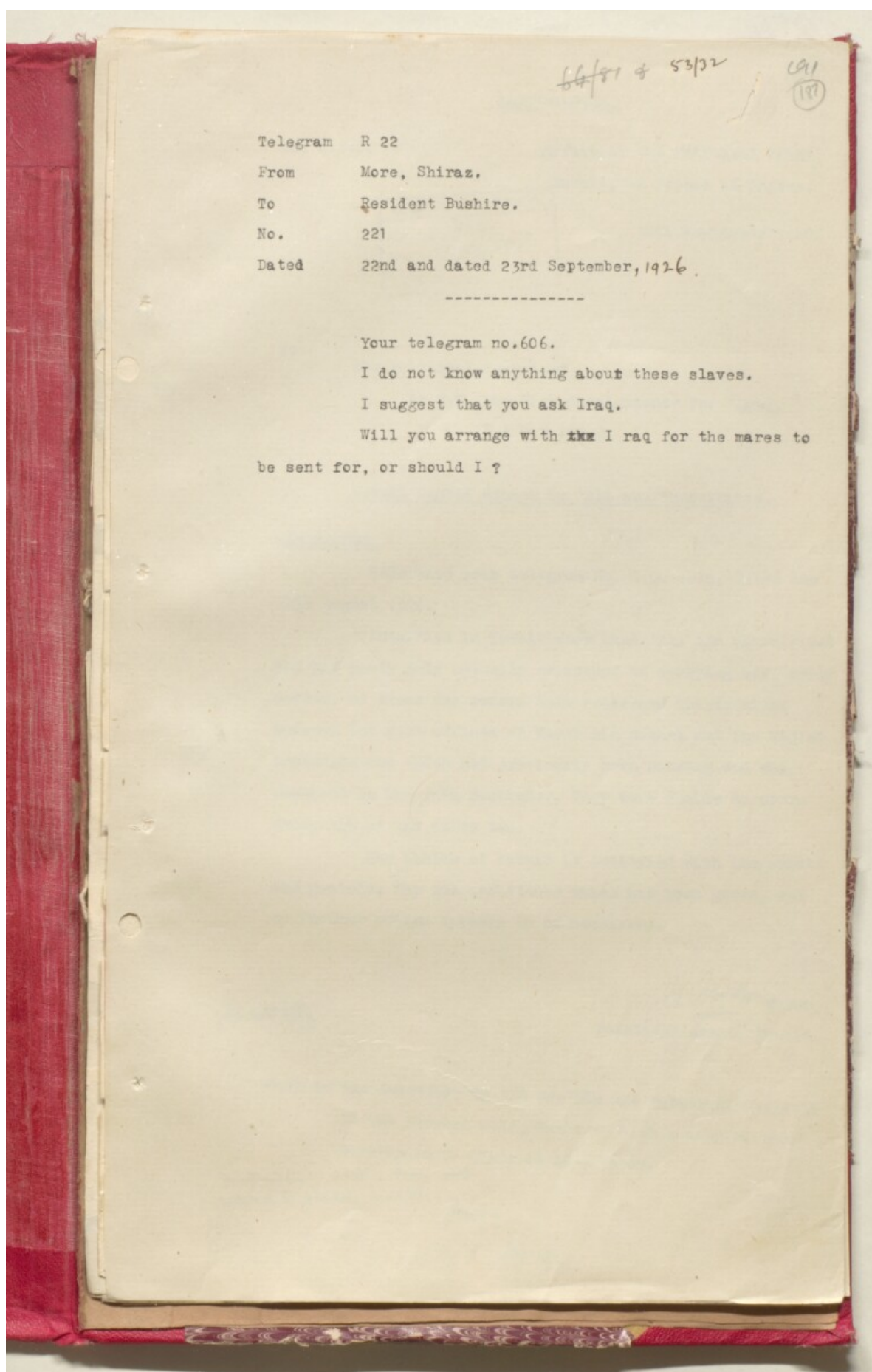


Telegram R.
From Resident Bushire.
To Political Kuwait at Shiraz.
No. 606
Dated and despatched, 21/9/26.

Kuwait telegram no. 658

Very Secret. I saw a telegram in Bahrain saying that slaves were being held. Are they wanted? Their punishment if returned to Iraq if Iraq subjects will be more humane.





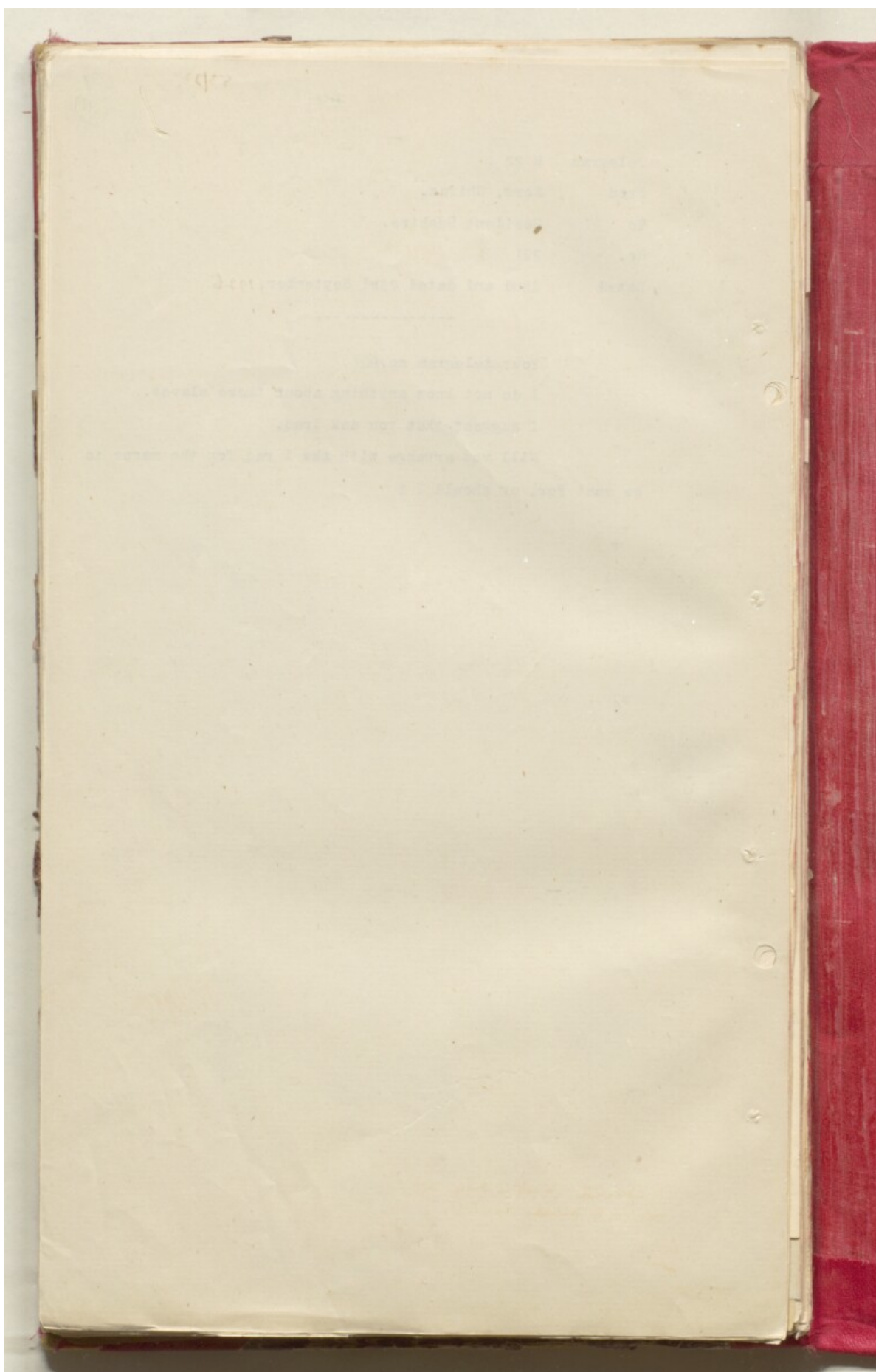
Telegram R 22
From More, Shiraz.
To Resident Bushire.
No. 221
Dated 22nd and dated 23rd September, 1926.

Your telegram no. 606.

I do not know anything about these slaves.

I suggest that you ask Iraq.

Will you arrange with ~~the~~ I raq for the mares to
be sent for, or should I ?





53/32

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 213-S. Office of the Political Agent,
Kuwait, on recess at Shiraz.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 584
Date 24/9/26.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

16th September 1926.

To
The Political Secretary
to H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq,
B A G H D A D.

Kuwait Camels stolen by 'Ali Abu Shuwairibat.

MEMORANDUM.

Reference your telegram No. S.O. 1916, dated the
20th August 1926.

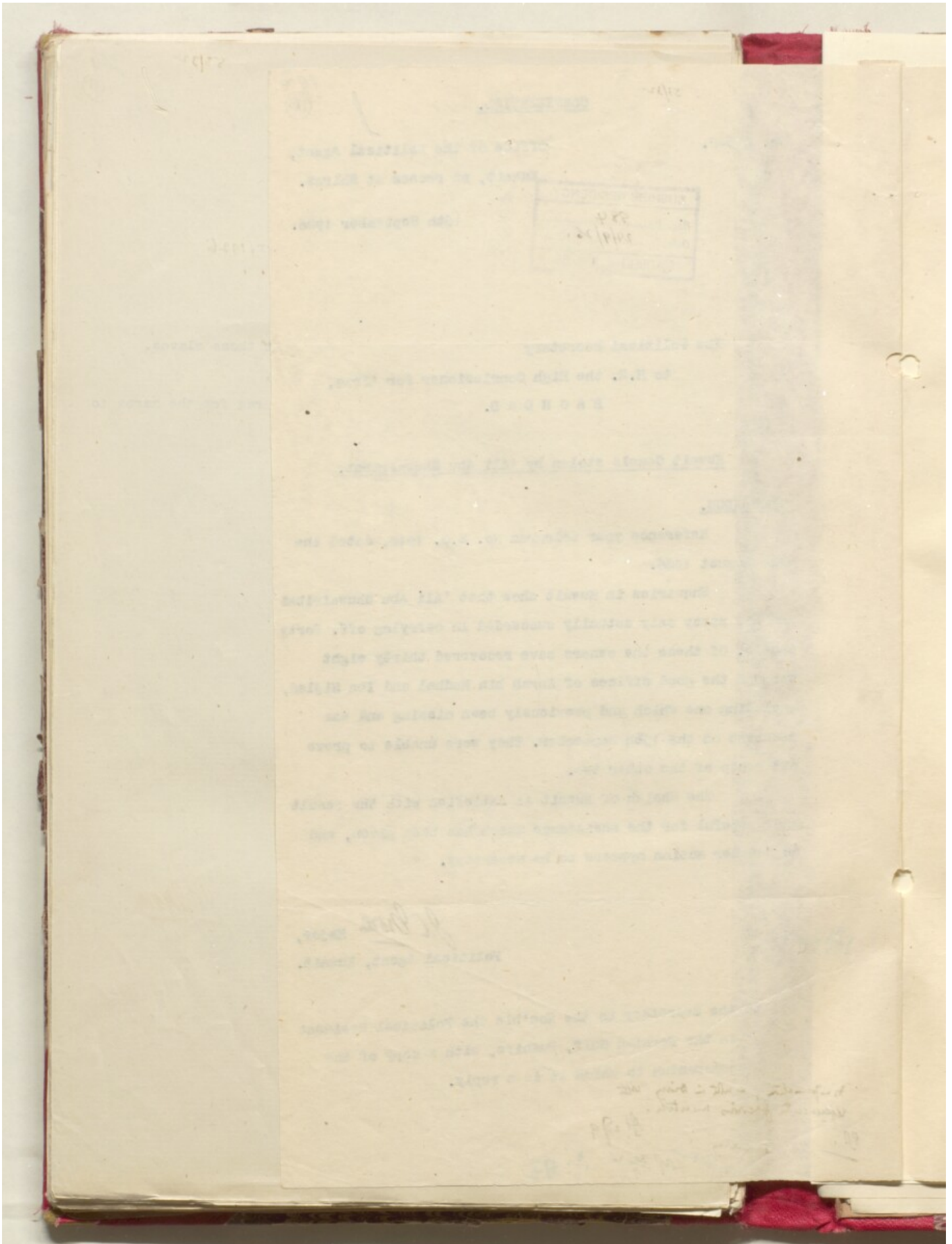
Enquiries in Kuwait show that 'Ali Abu Shuwairibat
and his party only actually succeeded in carrying off. forty
camels. Of these the owners have recovered thirty eight
through the good offices of Karab bin Hadhal and Ibn Mijlad,
including one which had previously been missing and was
received on the 15th September. They were unable to prove
ownership of the other two.

The Shaikh of Kuwait is satisfied with the result
and grateful for the assistance which has been given, and
no further action appears to be necessary.

12/10/26 J.C. Moore Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy to the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, with a copy of the
memorandum to which it is a reply.

Information, a note in diary with
reference to previous mention. 12/10/26
PR. Diary 12/10/26

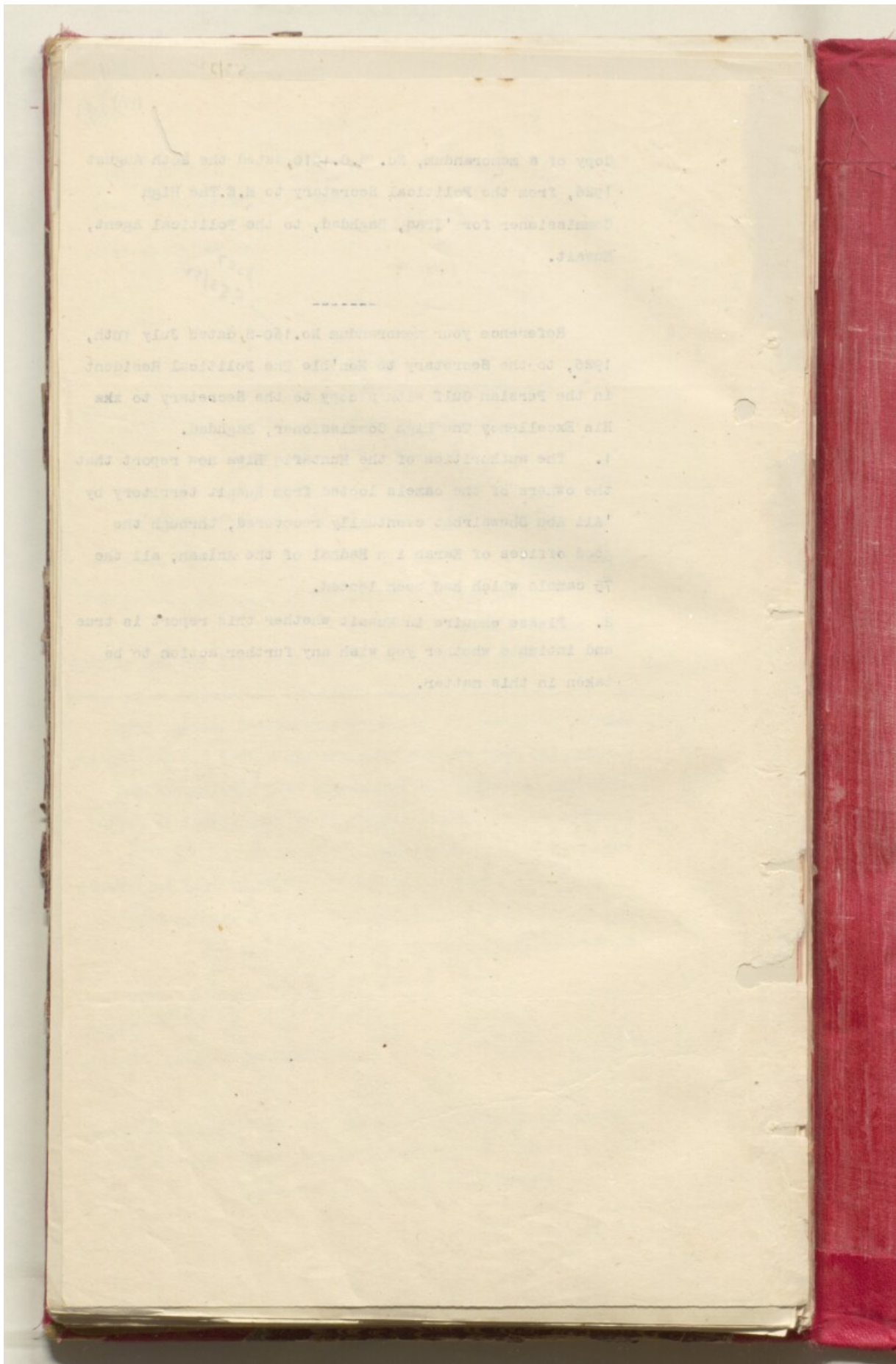


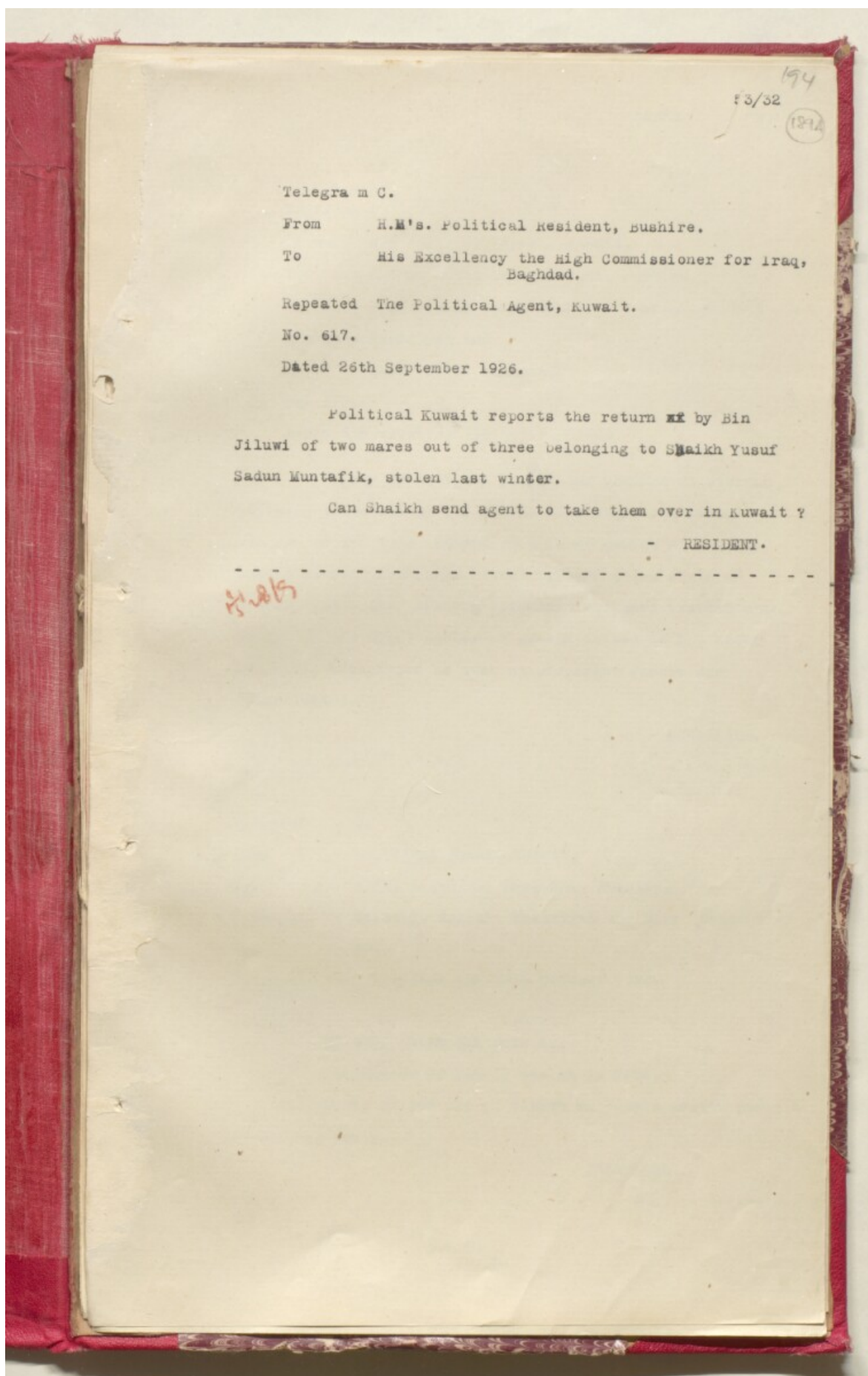


Copy of a memorandum, No. S.O.1910, dated the 20th August 1926, from the Political Secretary to H.E. The High Commissioner for 'Iraq, Baghdad, to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

Reference your memorandum No. 160-S, dated July 10th, 1926, to the Secretary to Hon'ble The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf with a copy to the Secretary to ~~the~~ His Excellency The High Commissioner, Baghdad.

1. The authorities of the Muntafiq Liwa now report that the owners of the camels looted from Kuwait territory by 'Ali Abu Shuwairbat eventually recovered, through the good offices of Karab ibn Hadhal of the Anizah; all the 75 camels which had been looted.
2. Please enquire in Kuwait whether this report is true and intimate whether you wish any further action to be taken in this matter.





Telegra m C.

From H.M.'s. Political Resident, Bushire.

To His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq,
Baghdad.

Repeated The Political Agent, Kuwait.

No. 617.

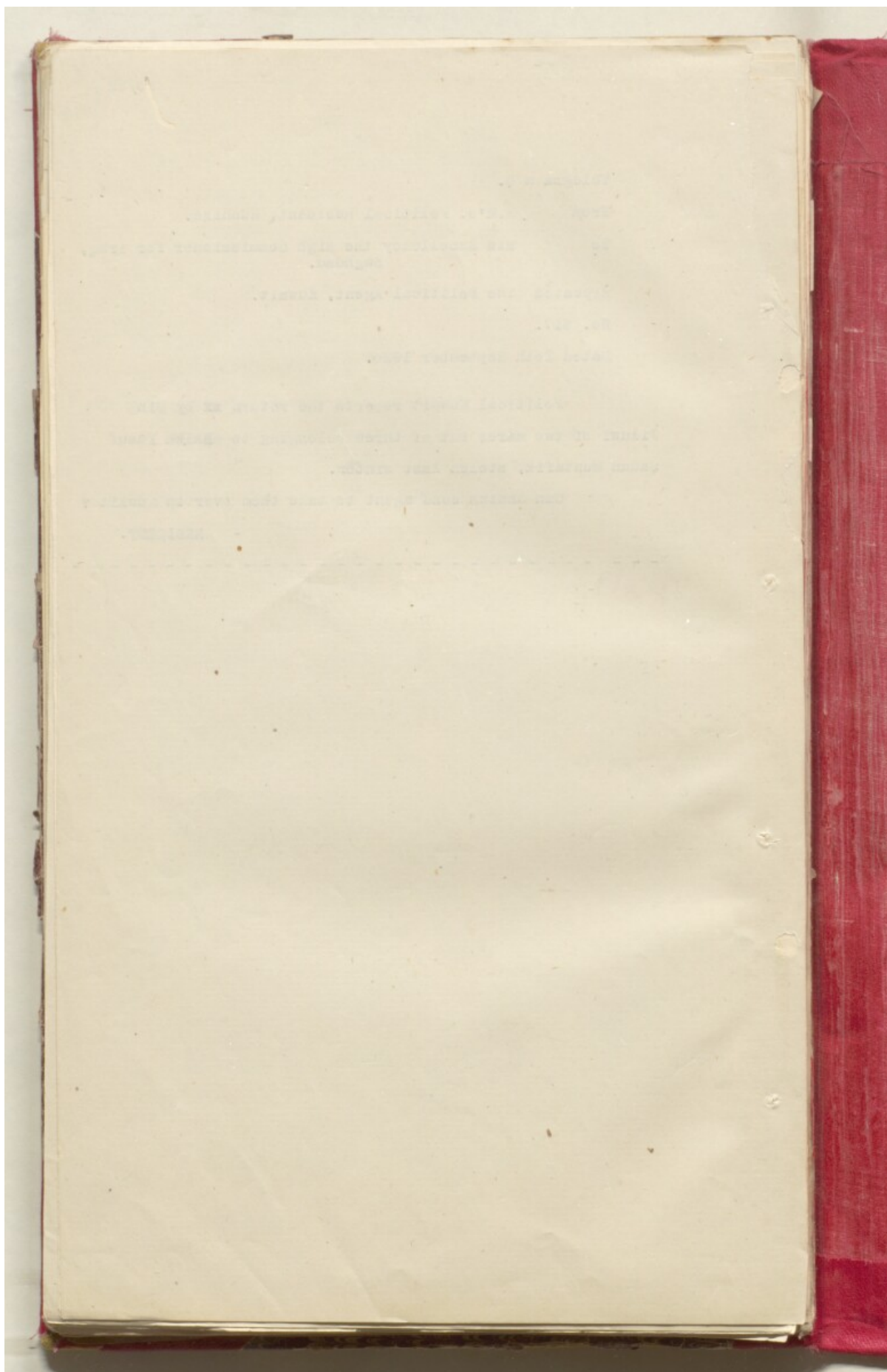
Dated 26th September 1926.

Political Kuwait reports the return ~~of~~ by Bin
Jiluwi of two mares out of three belonging to Shaikh Yusuf
Sadun Muntafik, stolen last winter.

Can Shaikh send agent to take them over in Kuwait ?

- RESIDENT.

H. 285





53/32

190

Telegram C.

From The Political Agent, Kuwait.

To H.M.'s. Political Resident, Bushire.

H.M.'s. High Commissioner for Iraq, Baghdad.

Repeated Nasiriyah and

Major More, Hamadan,

No. 675.

Dated 6th received 7th October 1926.

Party of over 100 men of the Shammar al Jazirah believed to be led by Ibn Jabhan al Waibar, Ibn Zwaimil and son of Ibn Ijil raided on a large number of Kuwait camels grazing near Zabd, about fifteen miles south of Jahrah, yesterday morning (Tuesday) and have proceeded to Iraq. The exact number of camels seized is not known and will be reported as soon as dispersed camels are re-collected.

- POLITICAL.

Telegram C.

From Political Agent, Kuwait,

To H.M.'s Political Resident, Bushire.

Repeated Baghdad, Basrah, Nasiriyah and More (Hamadan).

No. 680.

Dated the 9th, received the 10th October 1926.

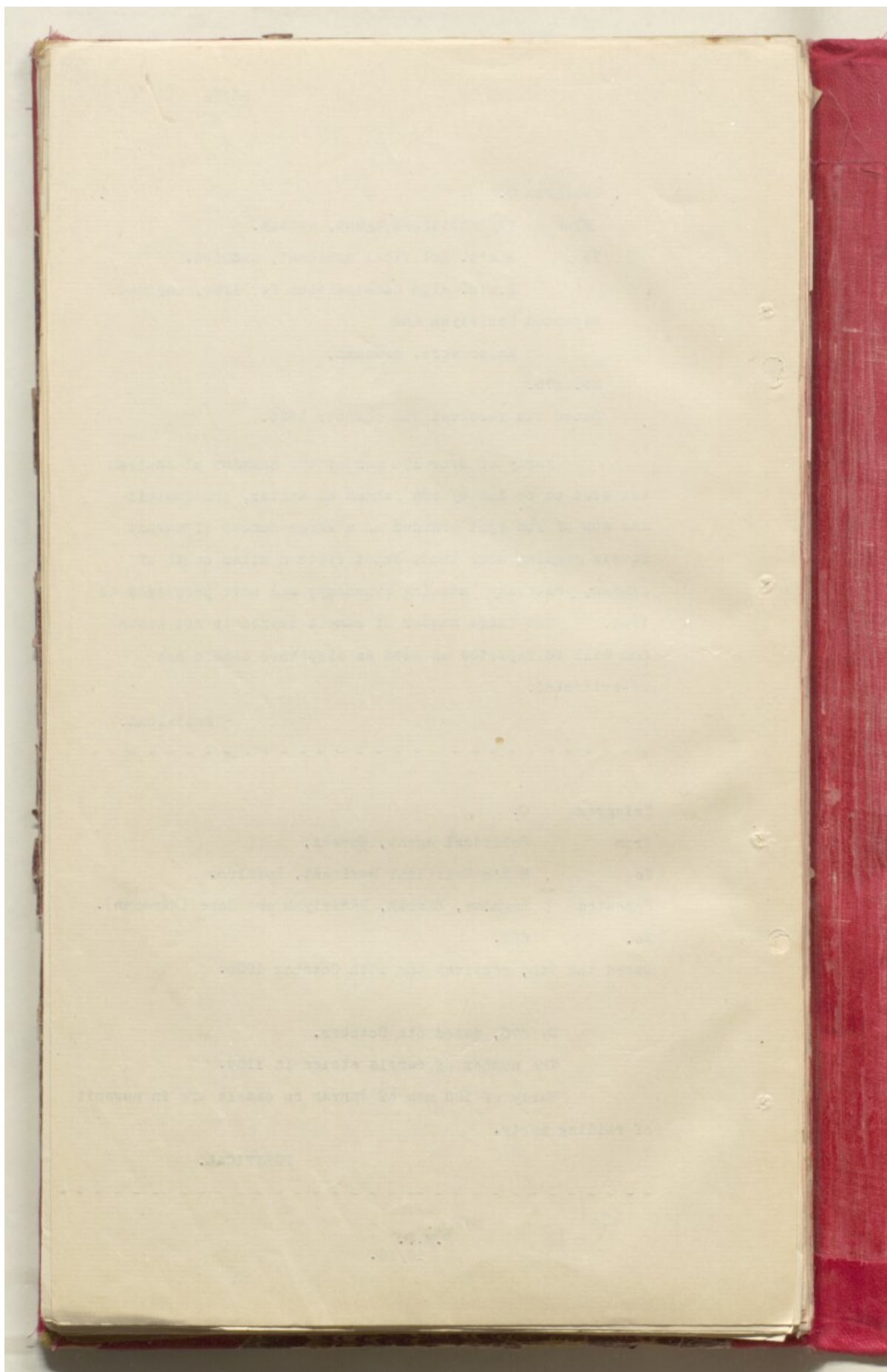
My 675, dated 6th October.

The number of camels stolen is 1100.

Party of 100 men of Jahrah on camels are in pursuit of raiding party.

POLITICAL.

Diary.
F.B.P.
10/10.





53/32 (91)

126

Telegram C.

From The Political Agent, Kuwait.

To H.M.'s. Political Resident, Bushire.

Repeated His Excellency the High Commissioner for
Iraq, Baghdad.

No. 692.

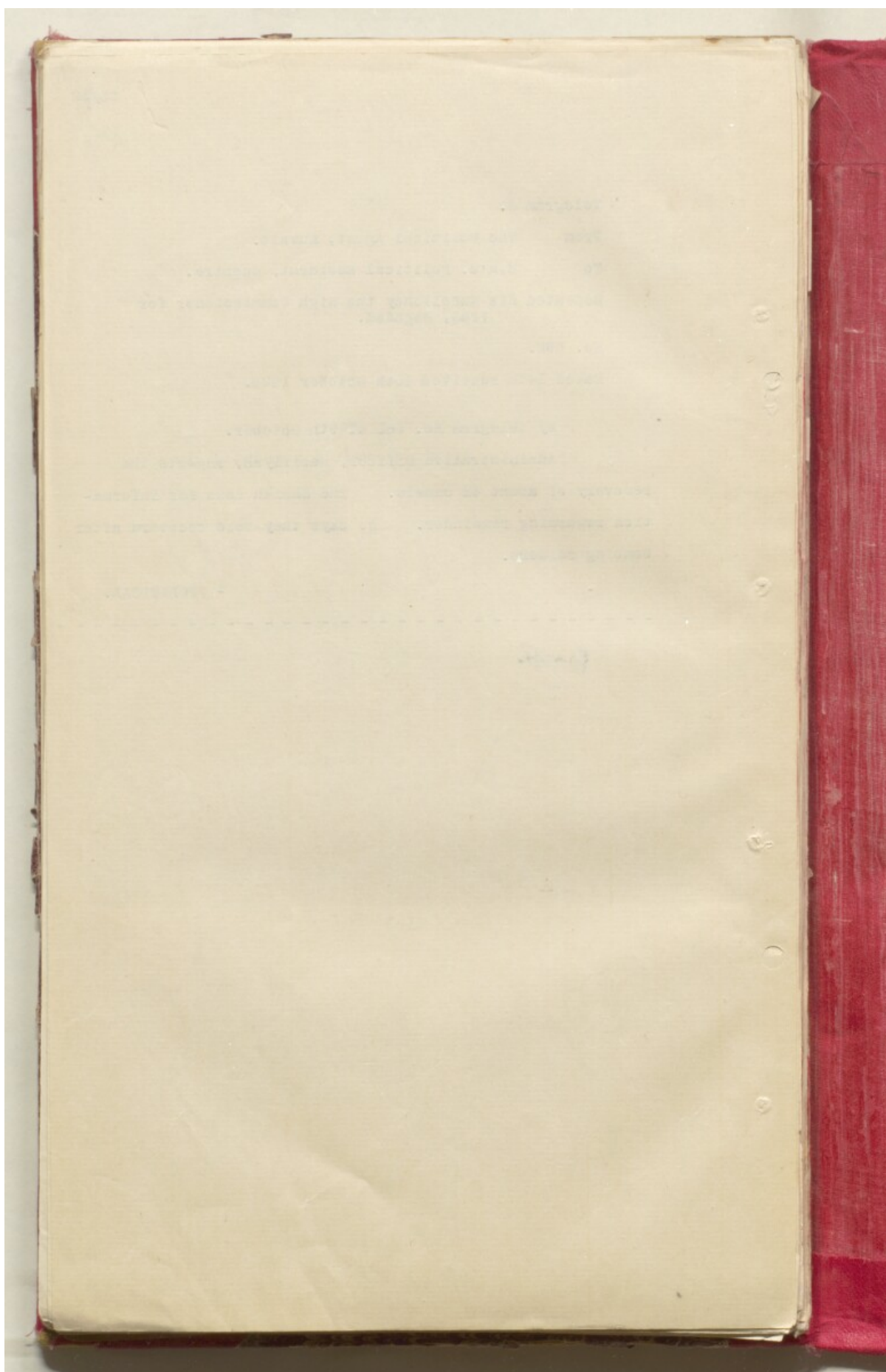
Dated 14th received 15th October 1926.

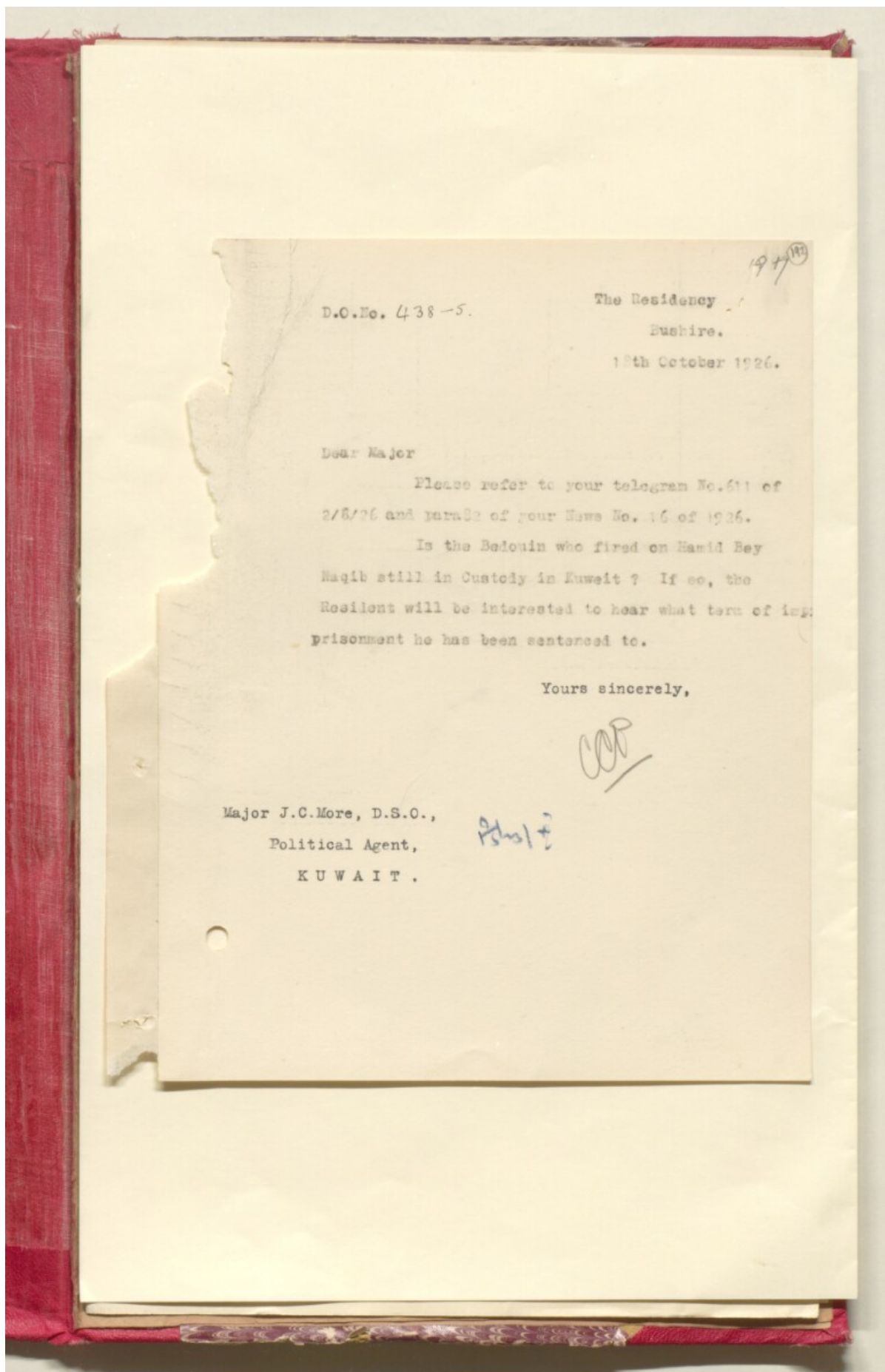
My telegram No. 680 of 9th October.

Administrative Officer, Nasiriyah, reports the
recovery of about 42 camels. The Shaikh asks for informa-
tion regarding remainder. He says they were recovered after
bombing raiders.

- POLITICAL.

Banshe





D.O.No. 438-5.

The Residency
Bushire.

18th October 1926.

Dear Major

Please refer to your telegram No. 611 of
2/8/26 and para 82 of your Memo No. 16 of 1926.

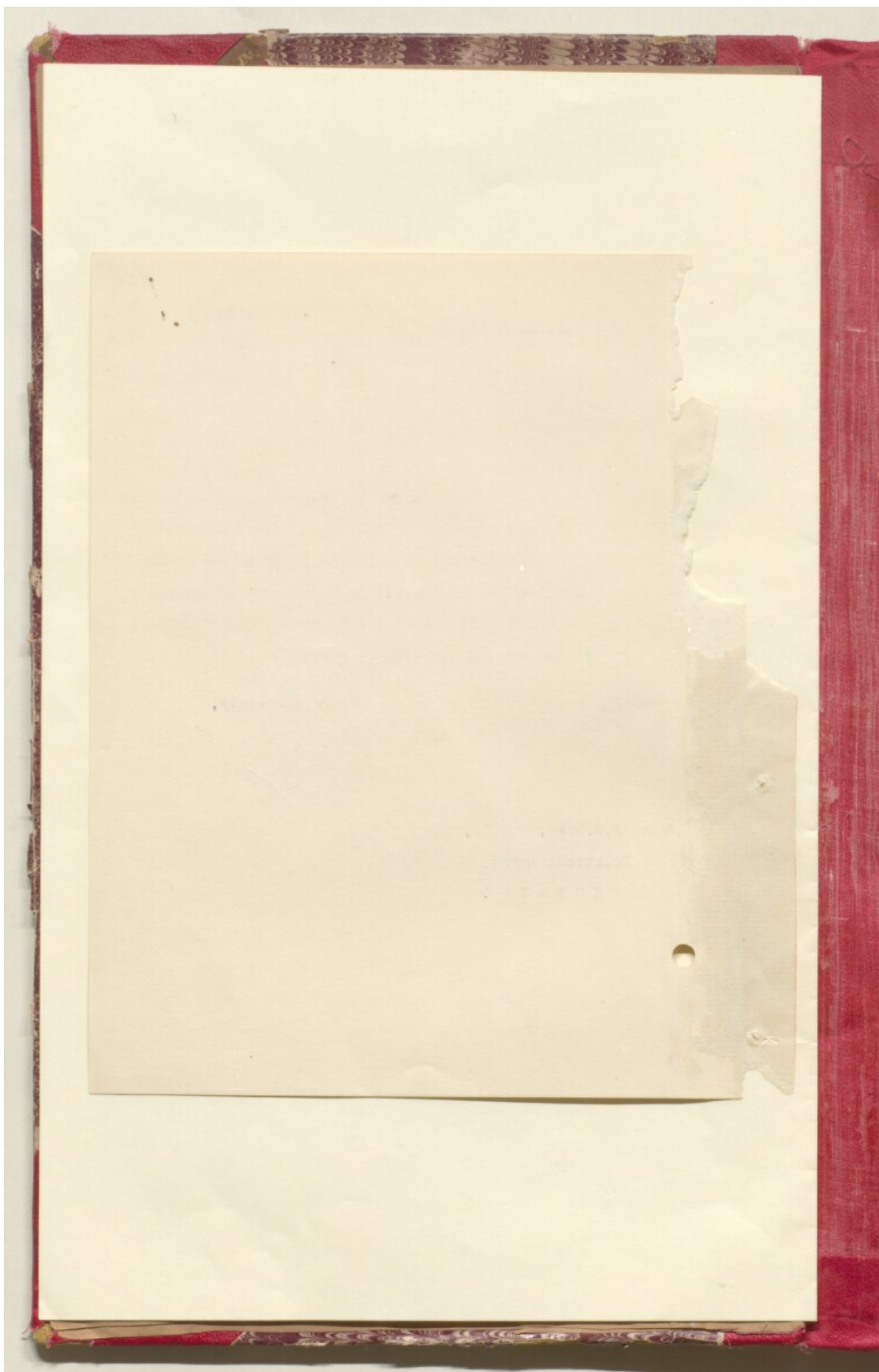
Is the Bedouin who fired on Hamid Bey
Naqib still in Custody in Kuwait? If so, the
Resident will be interested to hear what term of im-
prisonment he has been sentenced to.

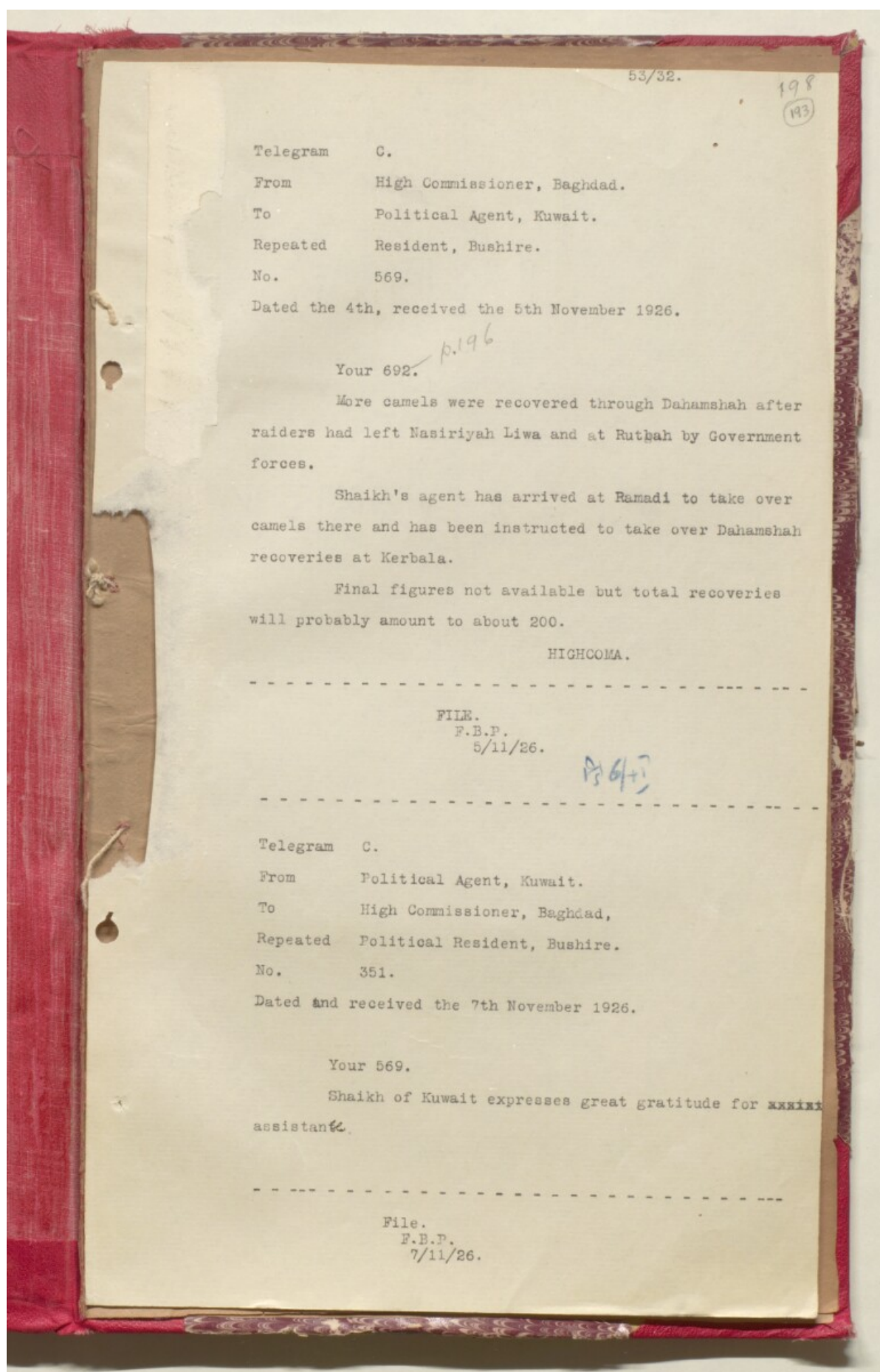
Yours sincerely,

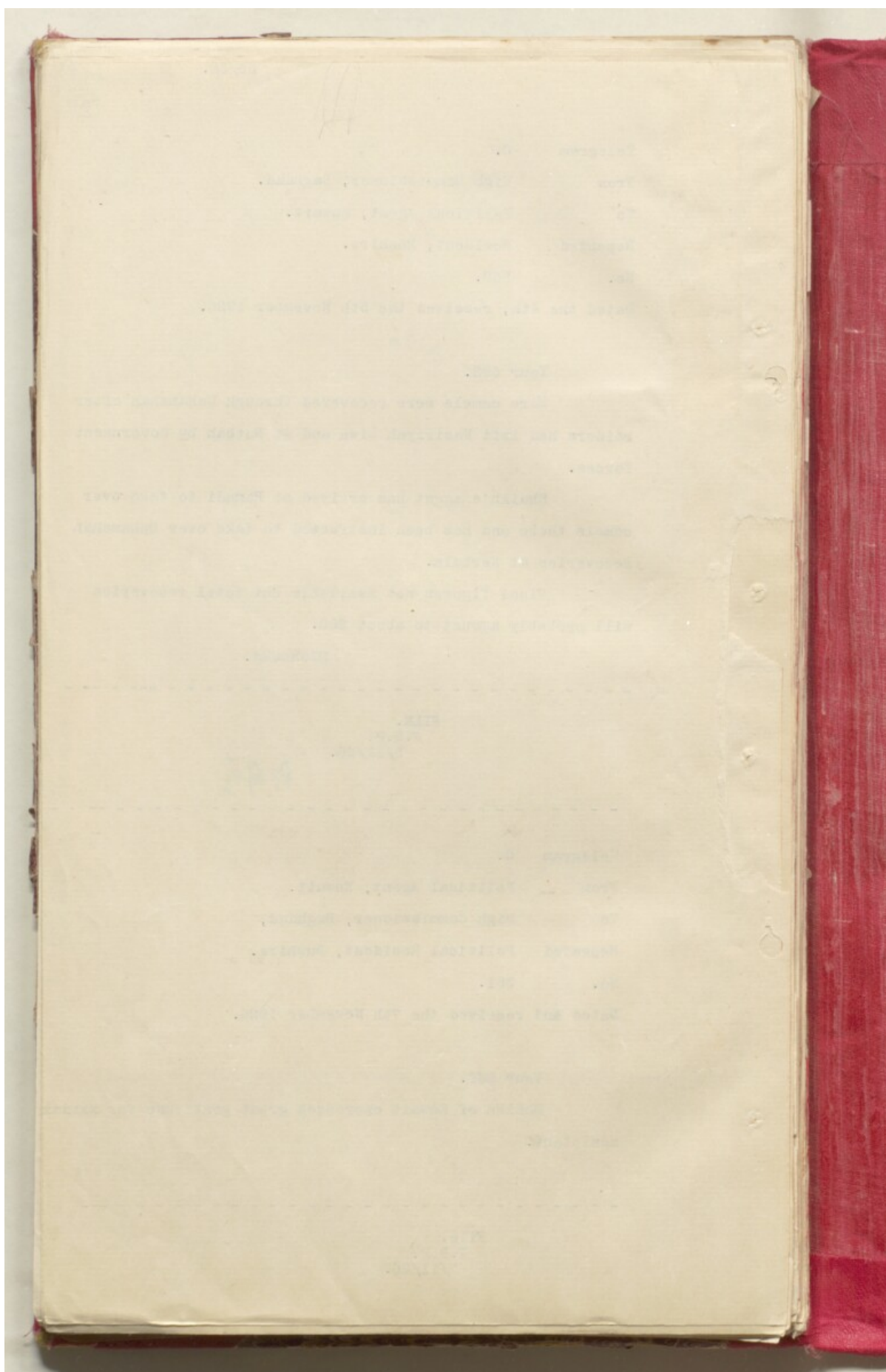
CAP

Major J.C. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

Adm 17









53/32 194

CONFIDENTIAL.

NO. 340-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
23rd October 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 979
Date 2/11/26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Assailant of Saiyid Hāmid Bey an-Naqīb.

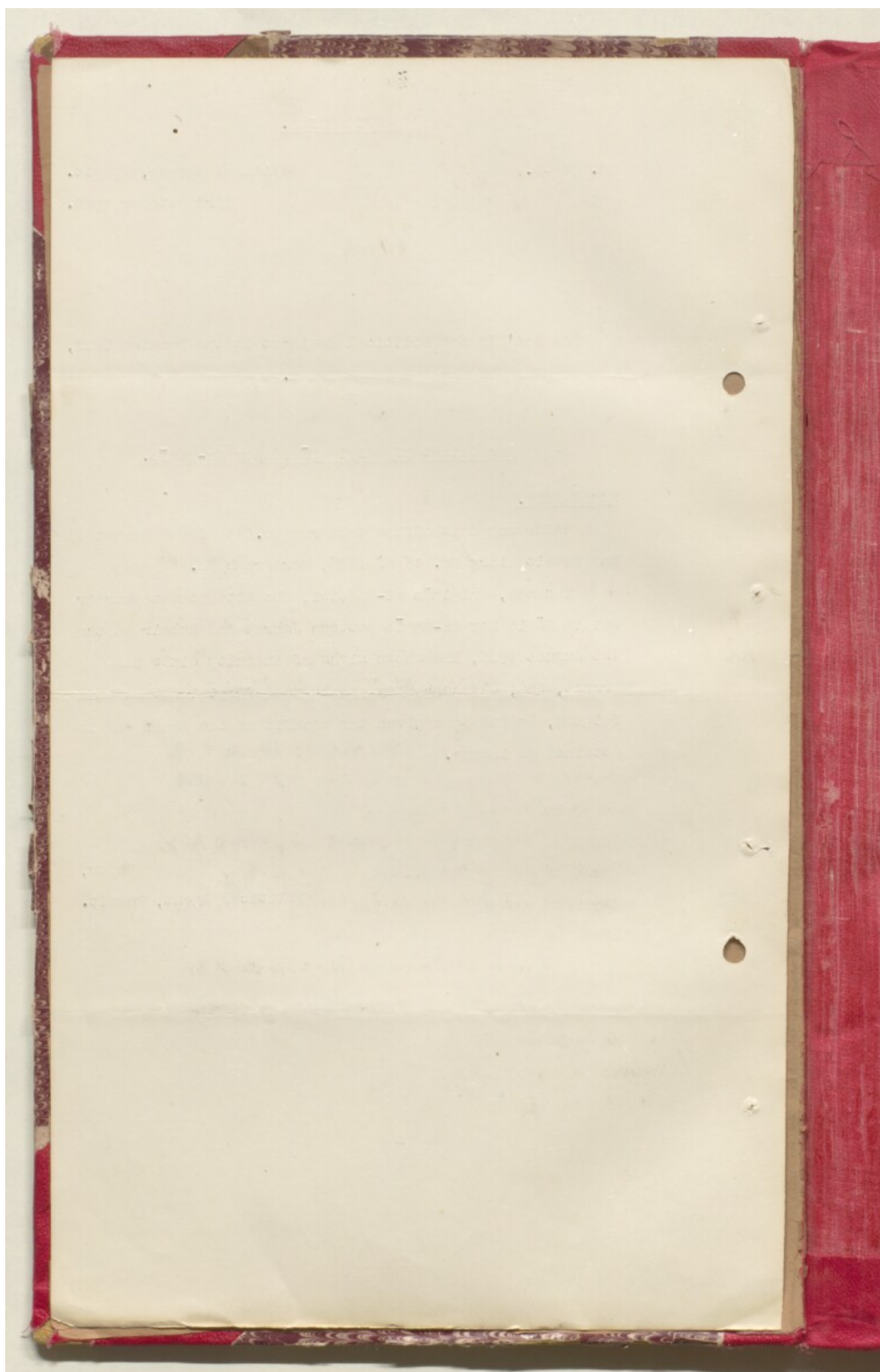
MEMORANDUM.

Reference this office telegram No. 611 of 2nd August 1926 and Kuwait Diary No. 16 of 1926, paragraph 82.

The man, Sulaimān al-Budaiwi, who attempted to murder Saiyid Hāmid Bey an-Naqīb between Jahrah and Zubair on the 1st August 1926, has shown signs of insanity since his arrest, and, although many people are of opinion that this is feigned, he has been given the benefit of the doubt and is detained as insane.

H/1/5
Jawab 21/11/26

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





179-a (195)

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 339-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
23rd October 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg. No. 977	
Date 2/11/26	
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Discontent against the Shaikh of Kuwait.

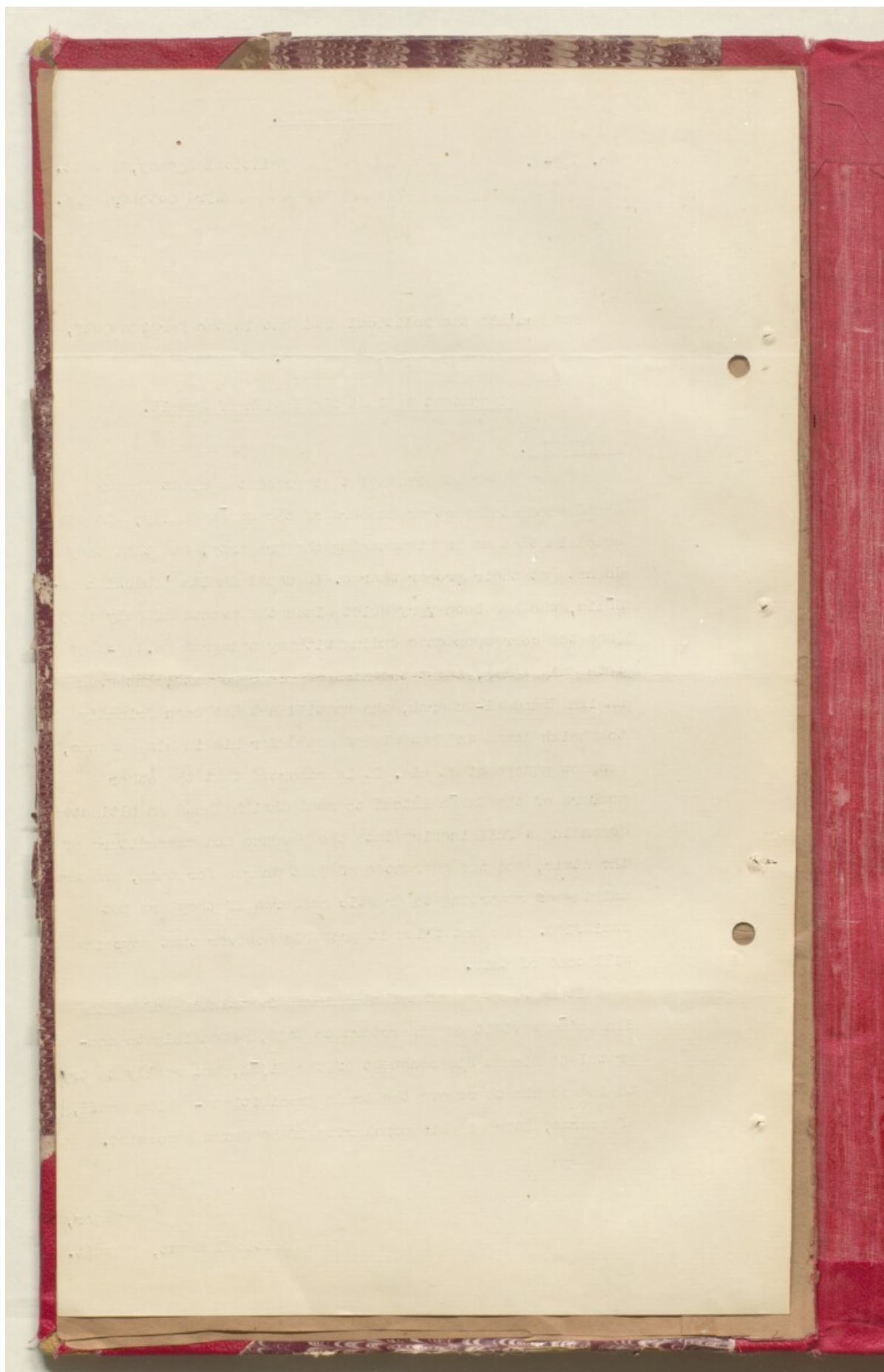
MEMORANDUM.

There is great discontent at present against Shaikh Ahmad amongst the other members of the Subāh Family, who all complain that he is mismanaging the property, and that they do not get their proper shares. As usual Shaikh 'Abdullah as-Sālim, who has been very quiet since the events of July 1923 (See the correspondence ending with my telegram No. 110-S of 19th July 1923), is at the head of his opponents, but even Shaikh Hamād al-Mubarak, who up till now has been friendly to Shaikh Ahmad and has always acted for him in his absence, has now gone against him. It is reported that the other members of the Subāh intend to send Shaikh Ahmad an ultimatum demanding a full inquiry into the revenue and expenditure of the state, and the guarantee of just shares for them, and are talking of resorting to drastic measures if they are not satisfied. I do not think it probable however that anything will come of this.

It is rumoured that Shaikh Ahmad is thinking of paying Ibn Sa'ūd a visit on his return to Najd, ostensibly to congratulate him on his conquest of the Hijāz, but really to try to induce him to remove the trade prohibition - which would, of course, increase his popularity if he ~~succeeds~~ succeeded.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

X/p 509
file 61/7
12.11.26
Col. to Civilian Officer, 5th
& Baghdad.
H.C.M.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No.458-S of 1926.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 3rd November 1926.

From

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel F.B.Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf;

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India,
D E L H I.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a memorandum, No.339-S, dated the 23rd October 1926, received from the Political Agent, Kuwait, regarding the discontent against the Shaikh of Kuwait amongst the other members of the Subah family.

2. I do not think that at present the trouble is serious.

3. I am sending copies of this despatch to His Majesty's

No.21, d.3/11/26- Secretary of State for the Colonies and His Excellency the
459-S, d. " - High Commissioner for Iraq.

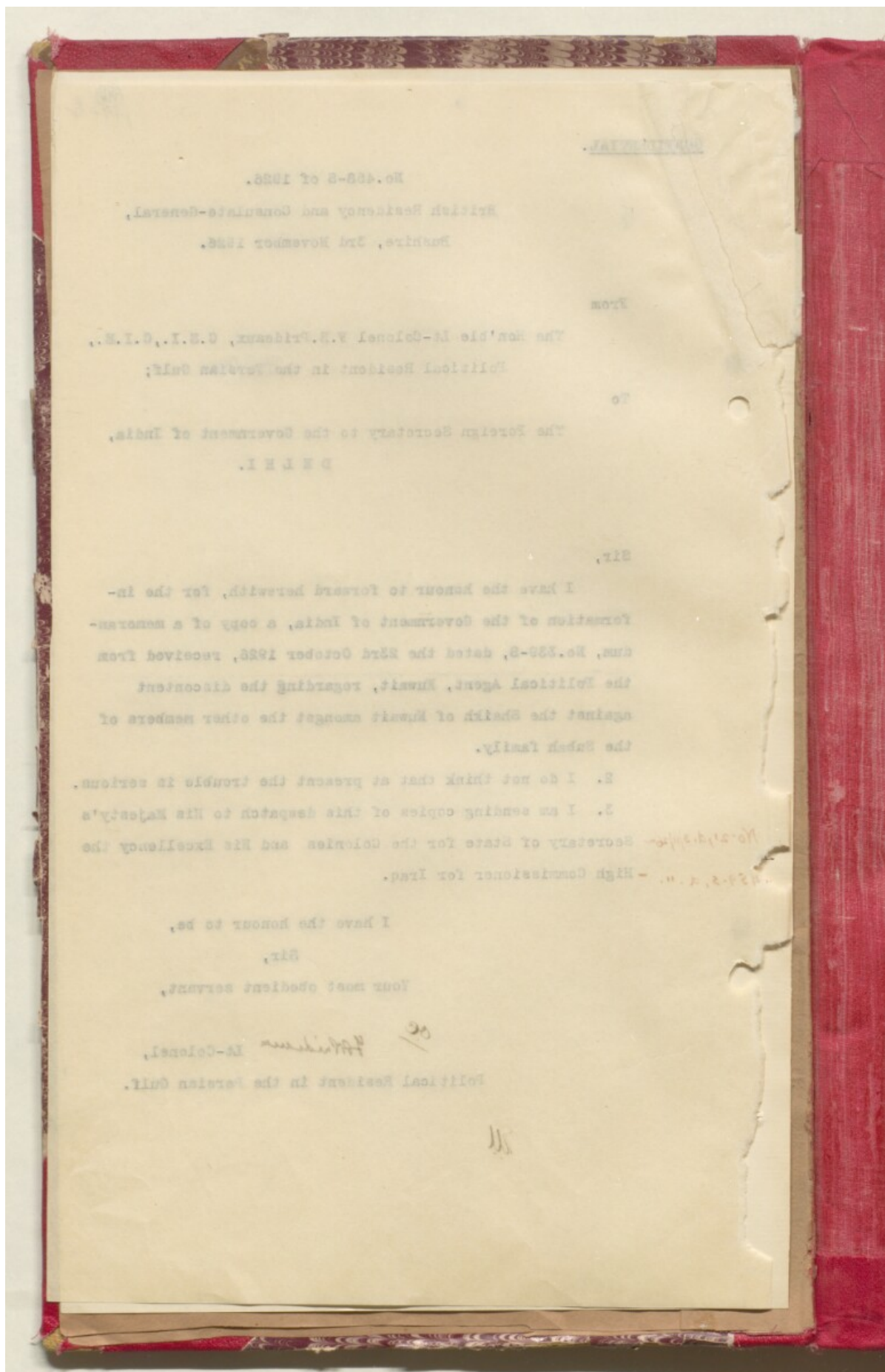
I have the honour to be,

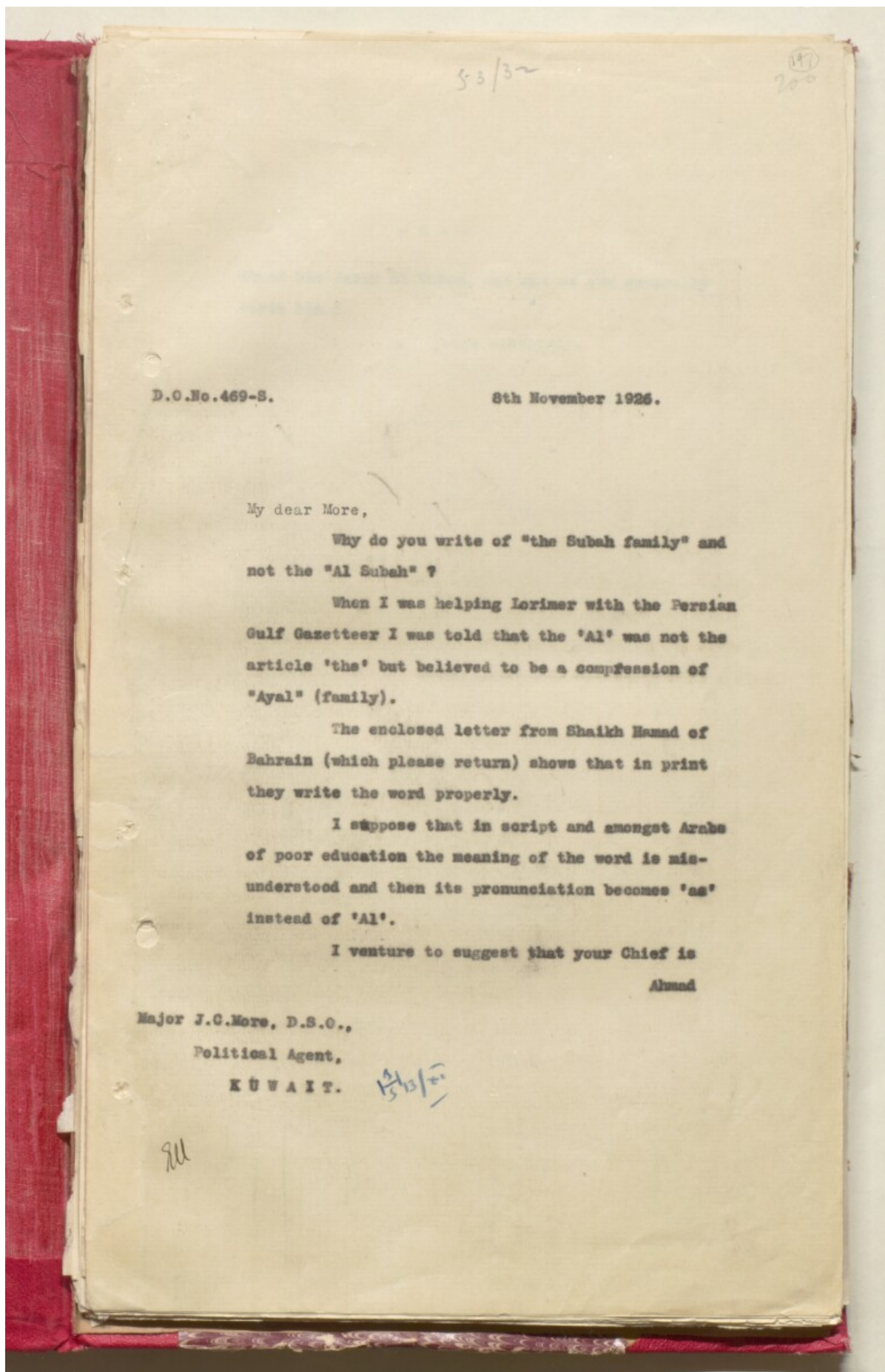
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

oc
F.B.Prideaux Lt-Colonel,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

M





D.O.No.469-S.

8th November 1926.

My dear More,

Why do you write of "the Subah family" and not the "Al Subah" ?

When I was helping Lorimer with the Persian Gulf Gazetteer I was told that the 'Al' was not the article 'the' but believed to be a compression of "Ayal" (family).

The enclosed letter from Shaikh Hamad of Bahrain (which please return) shows that in print they write the word properly.

I suppose that in script and amongst Arabs of poor education the meaning of the word is misunderstood and then its pronunciation becomes 'as' instead of 'Al'.

I venture to suggest that your Chief is

Almad

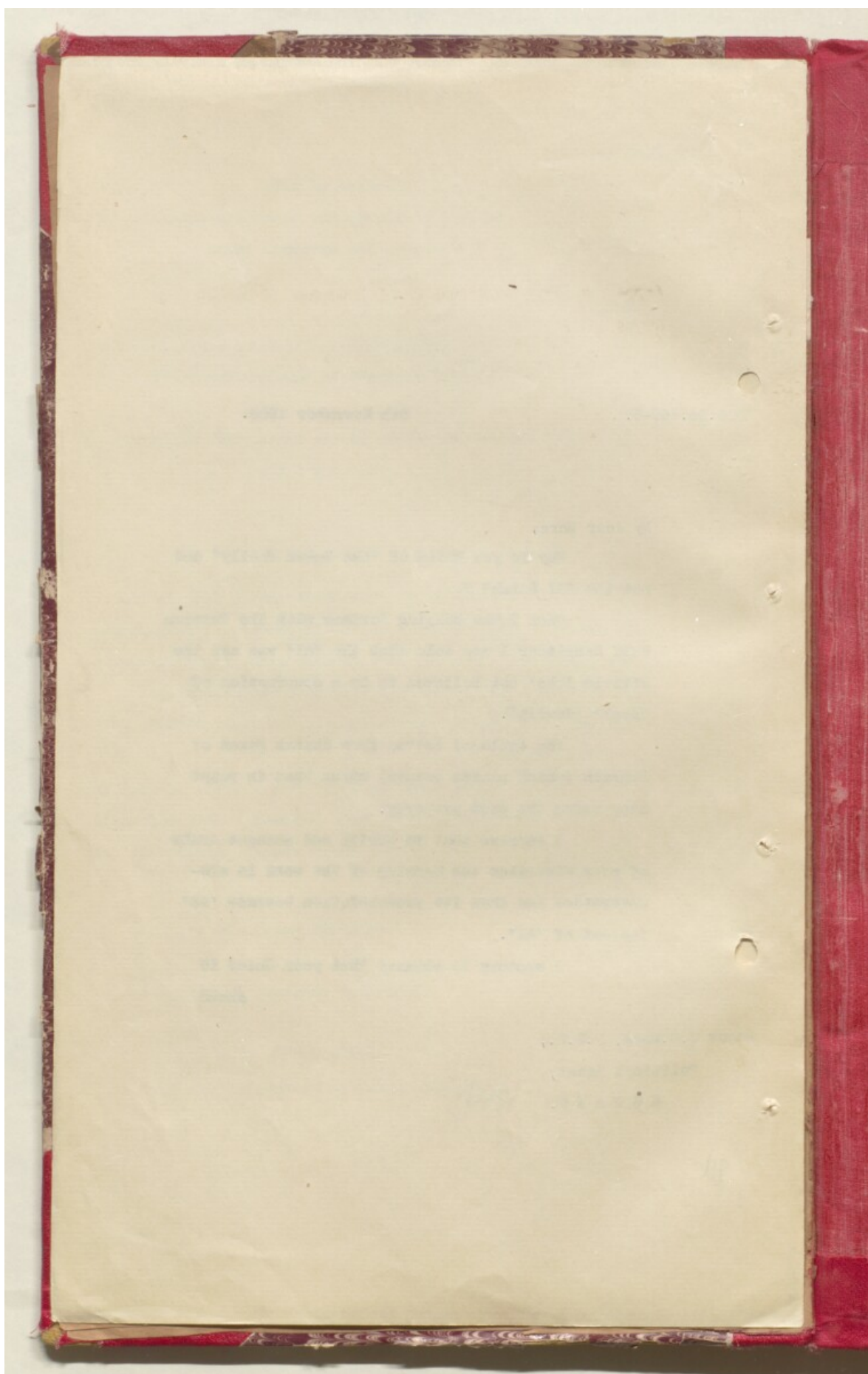
Major J.C.More, D.S.O.,

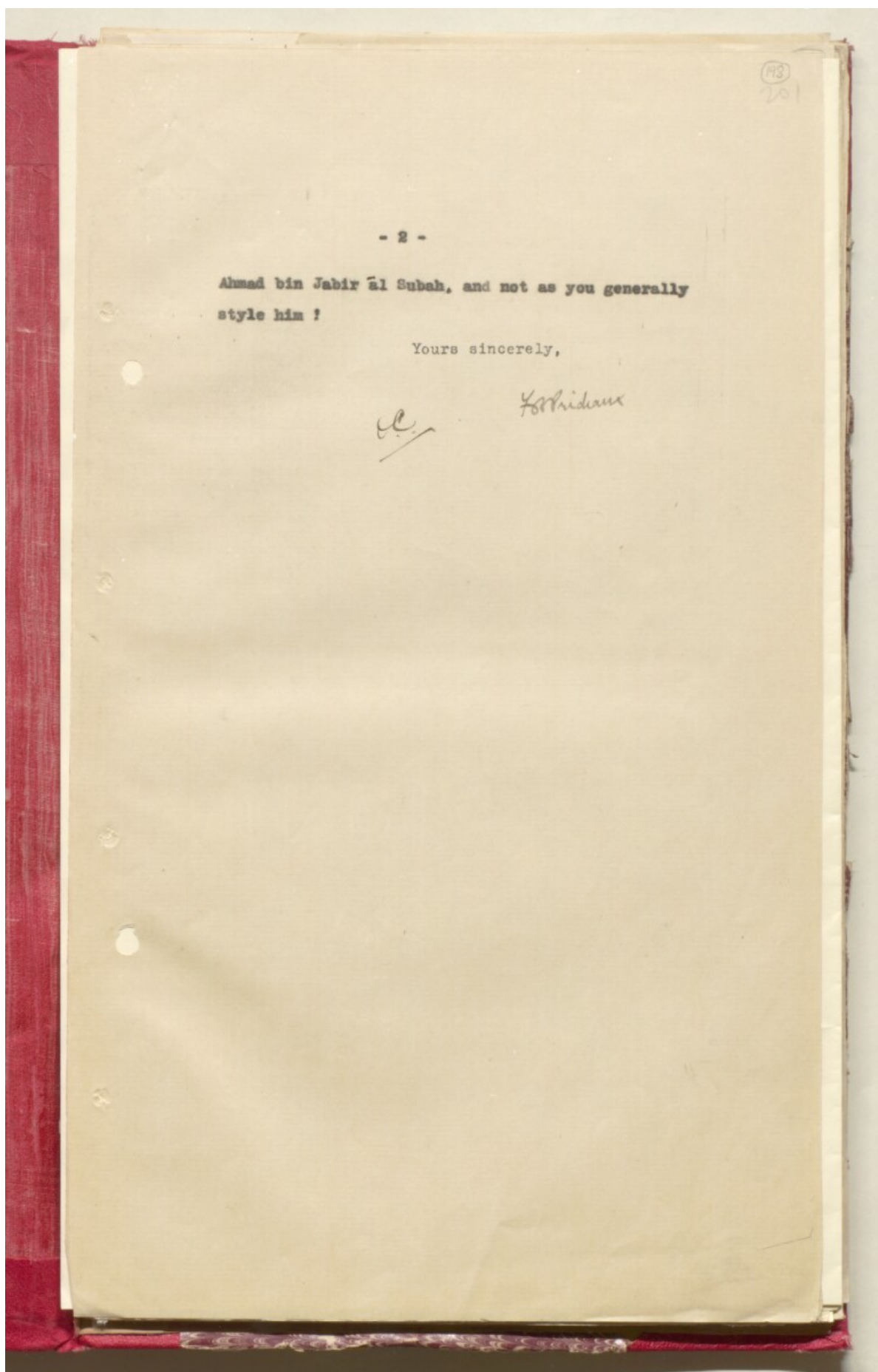
Political Agent,

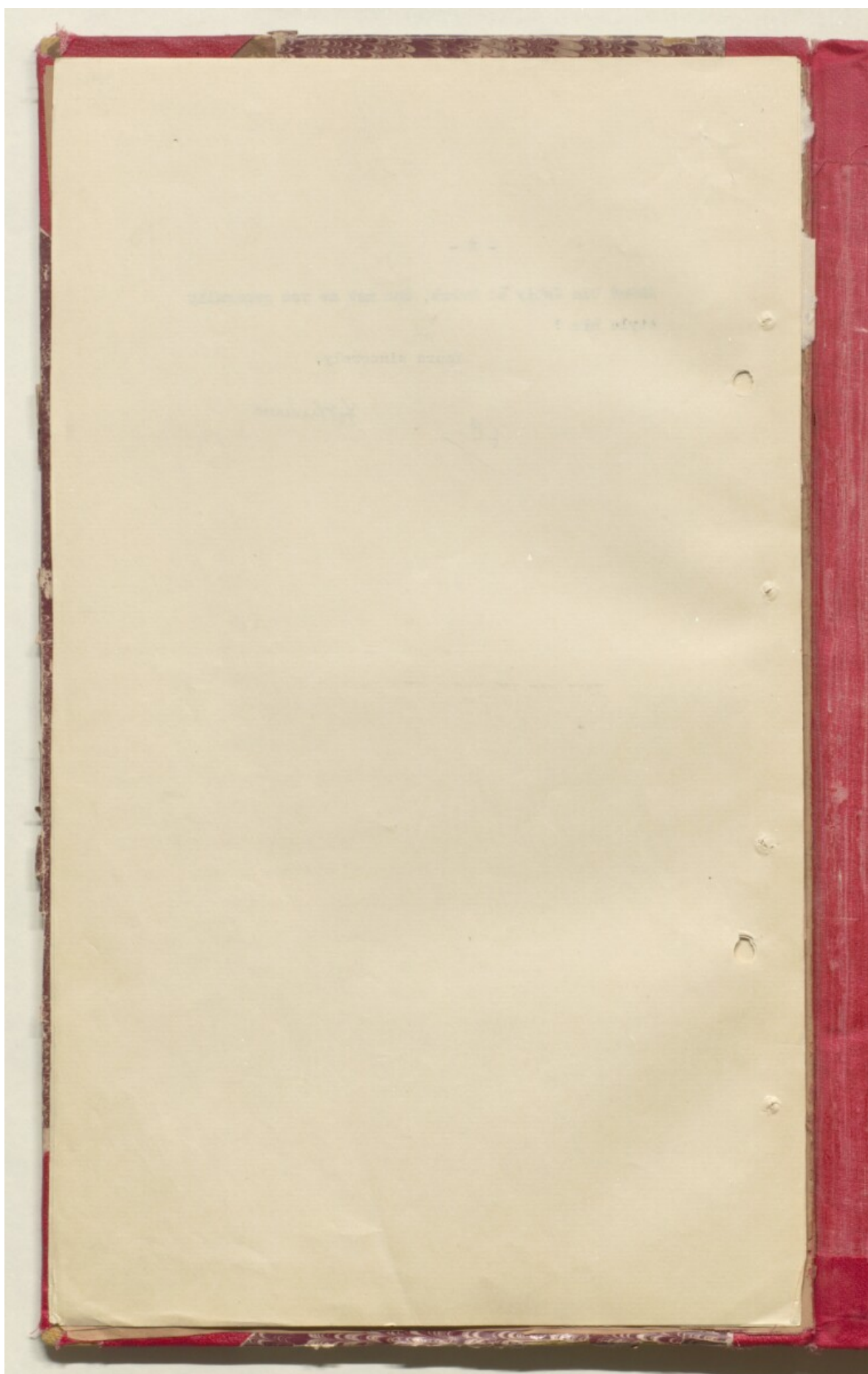
K U W A I T.

15/11/26

90









CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 356-S.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

10 th November 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 1036
Date 18/11/26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Administrative Inspector,
Muntafiq Liwa,
N A S I R I Y A H.

Mares.

MEMORANDUM.

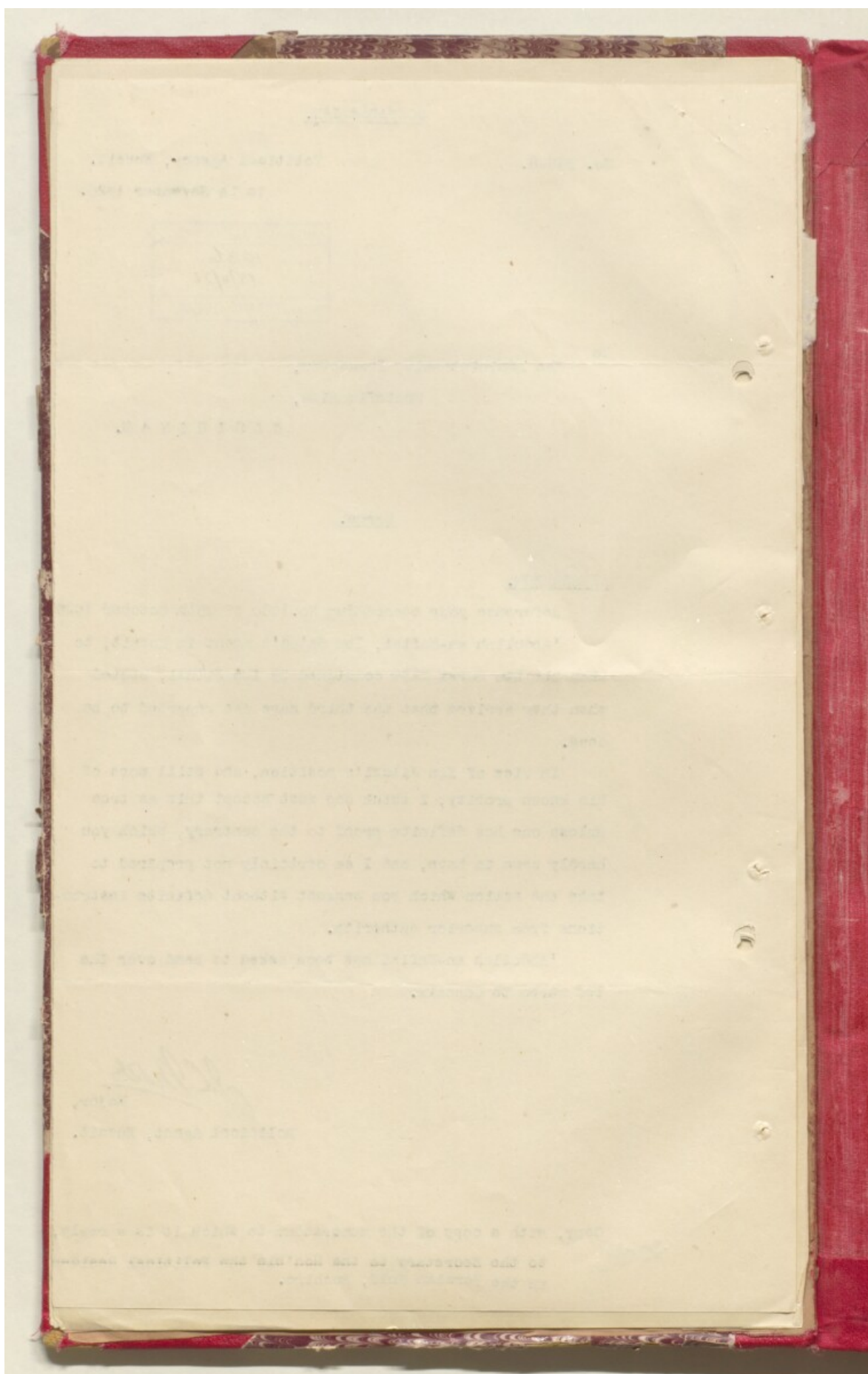
Reference your memorandum No. 1080 of 25th October 1926
'Abdullah an-Nafisi, Ibn Sa'ud's agent in Kuwait, to
whom the two mares were consigned by Ibn Jiluwi, stated
when they arrived that the third mare was reported to be
dead.

In view of Ibn Jiluwi's position, and still more of
his known probity, I think one must accept this as true
unless one has definite proof to the contrary, which you
hardly seem to have, and I am certainly not prepared to
take the action which you suggest without definite instruc-
tions from superior authority.

'Abdullah an-Nafisi has been asked to hand over the
two mares to Ghunaim.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy, with a copy of the memorandum to which it is a reply,
to the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.



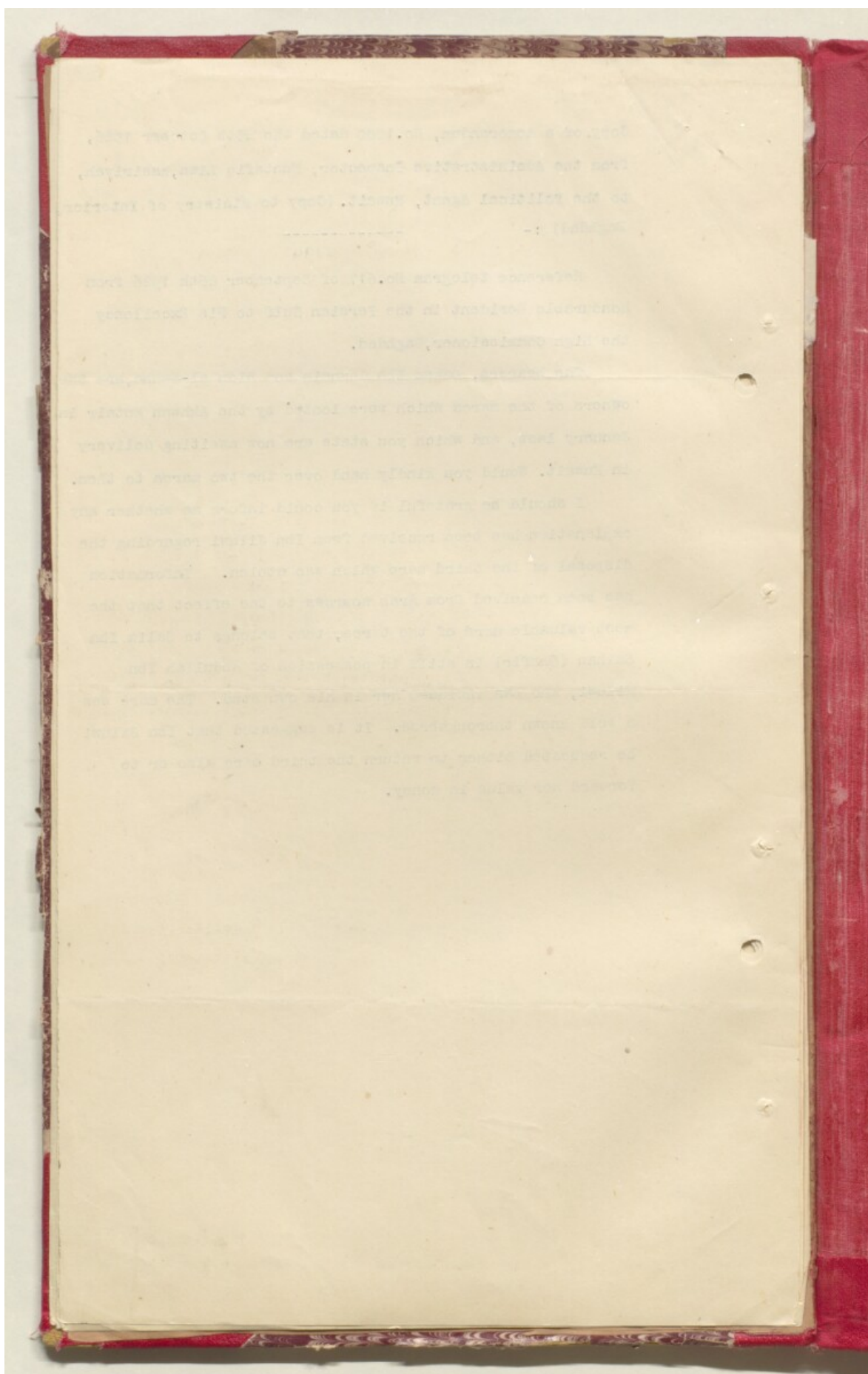


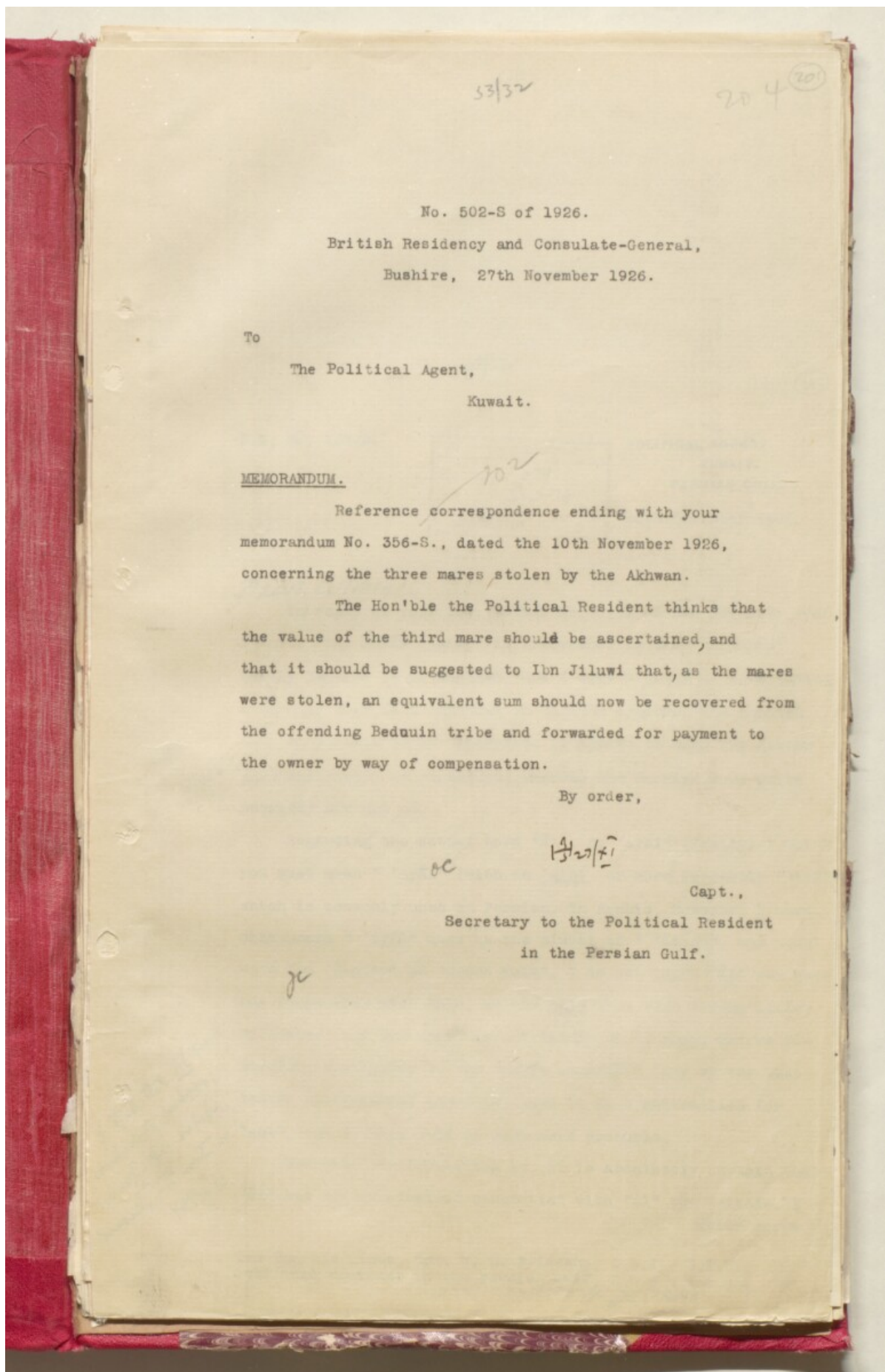
23 200
Copy of a memorandum, No.1080 dated the 25th October 1926,
from the Administrative Inspector, Muntafiq Liwa, Nasiriyah,
to the Political Agent, Kuwait. (Copy to Ministry of Interior,
Baghdad) :- -----

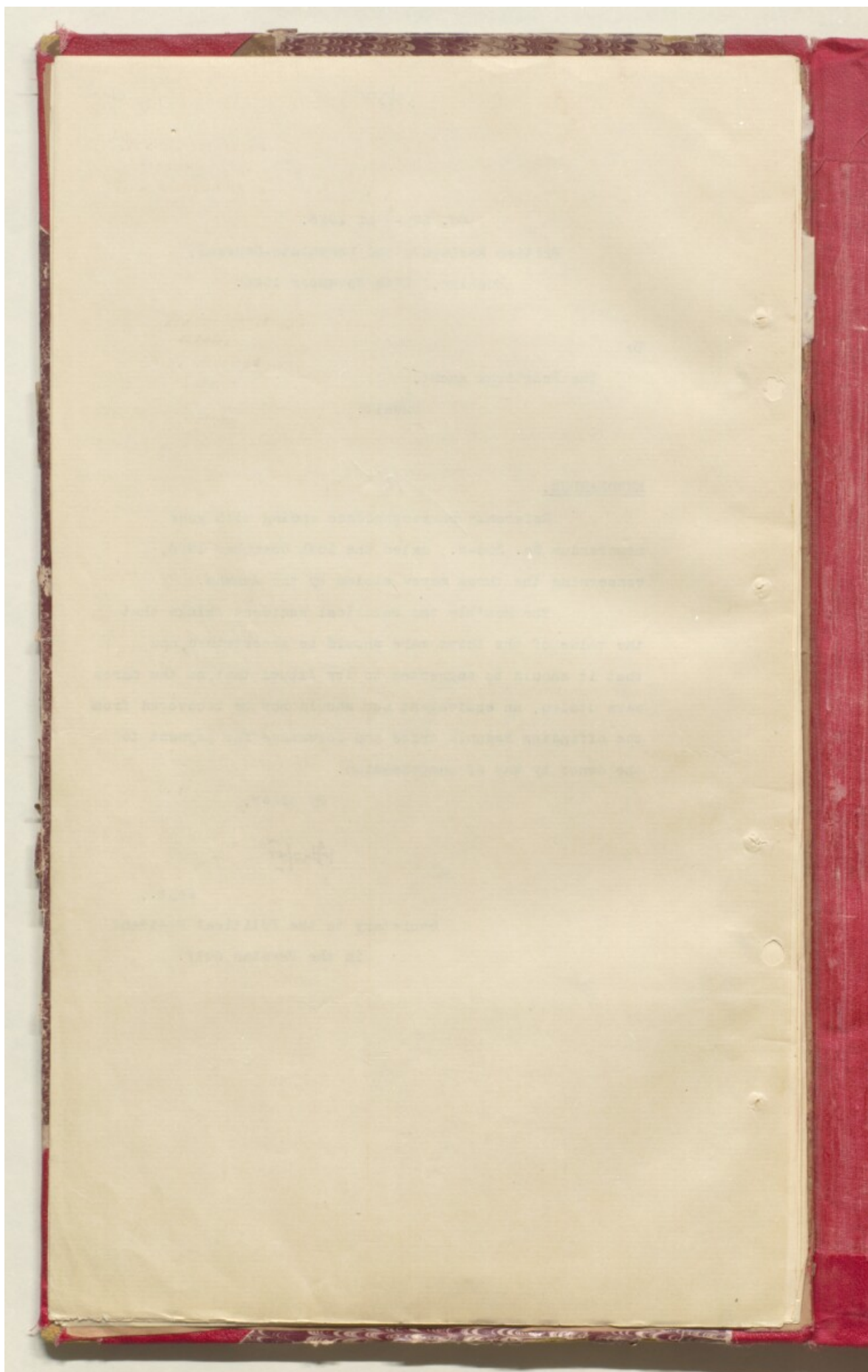
10194
Reference telegram No.617 of September 26th 1926 from
Honourable Resident in the Persian Gulf to His Excellency
the High Commissioner, Baghdad.

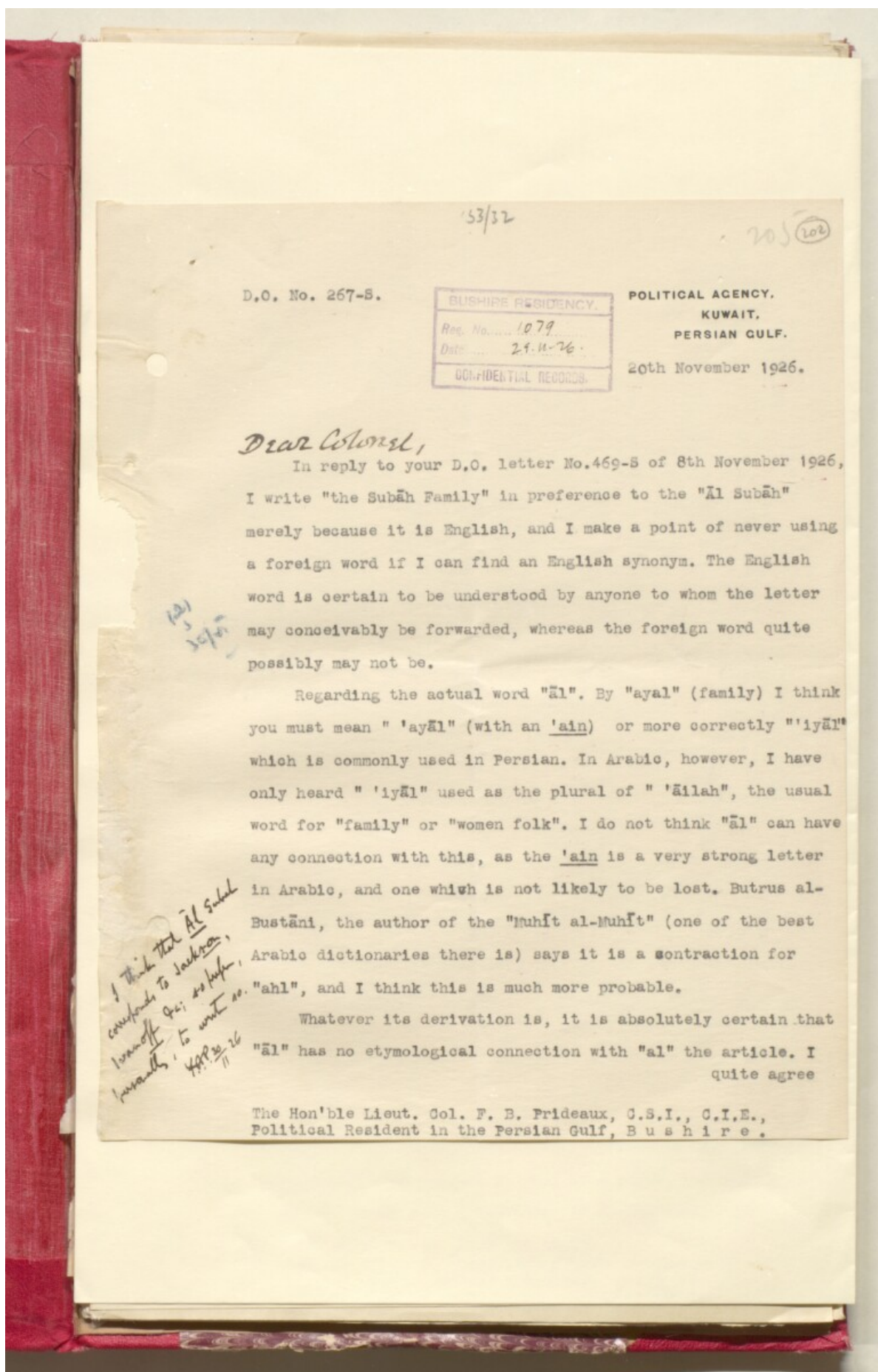
The bearers, Daham Ibn Ghana'im and Ridn al-Wanna, are the
owners of the mares which were looted by the Akhwan Mutair in
January last, and which you state are now awaiting delivery
in Kuwait. Would you kindly hand over the two mares to them.

I should be grateful if you could inform me whether any
explanation has been received from Ibn Jiluwi regarding the
disposal of the third mare which was stolen. Information
has been received from Arab sources to the effect that the
most valuable mare of the three, that belongs to Salim Ibn
Saihan (Dhafir) is still in possession of Abdullah Ibn
Jiluwi, who has included her in his own stud. The mare was
a well known thoroughbred. It is suggested that Ibn Jiluwi
be requested either to return the third mare also or to
forward her value in money.









D.O. No. 267-5.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 1079
Date 29.11.26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

POLITICAL AGENCY.
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.
20th November 1926.

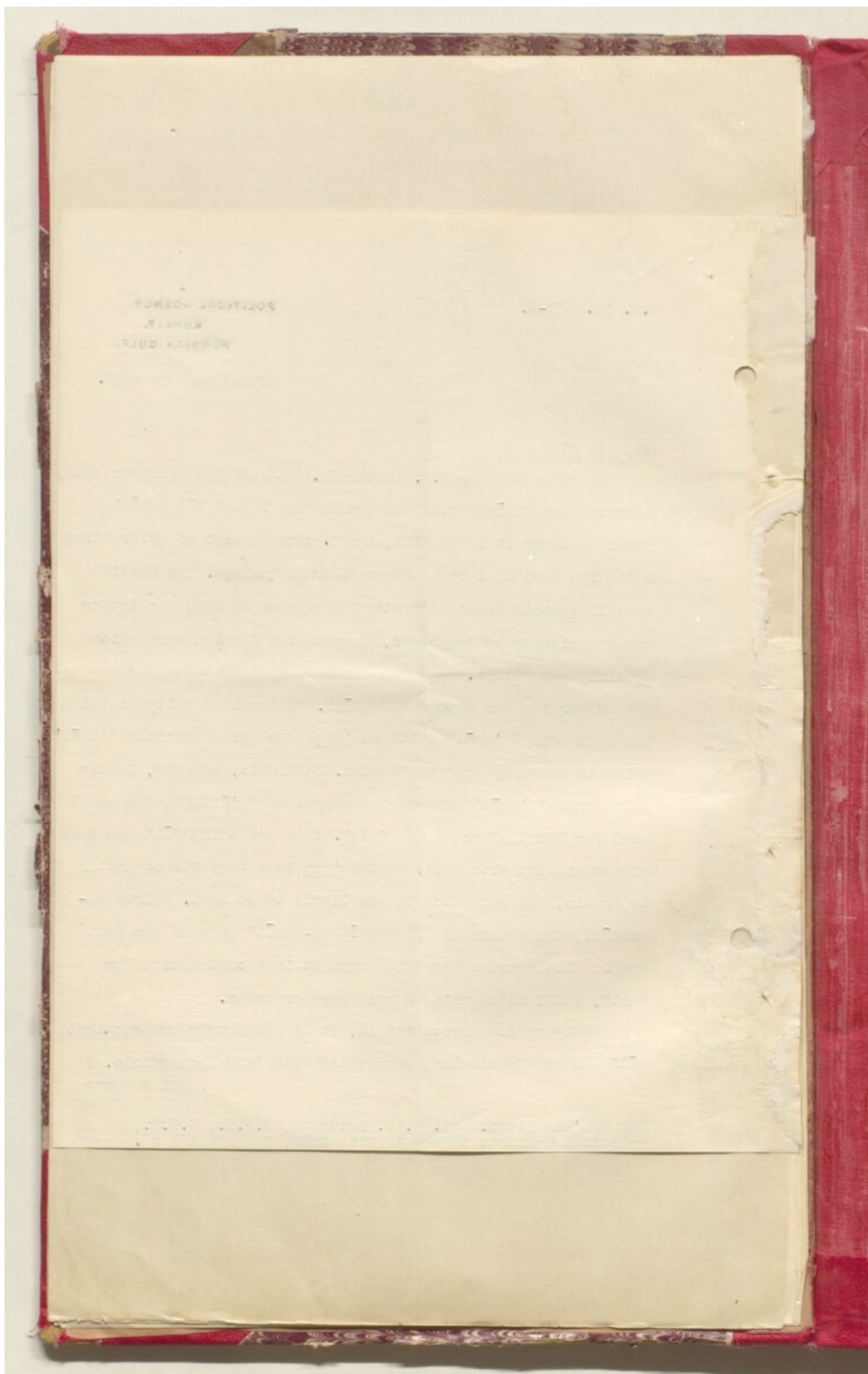
Dear Colonel,

In reply to your D.O. letter No. 469-5 of 8th November 1926, I write "the Subāh Family" in preference to the "Āl Subāh" merely because it is English, and I make a point of never using a foreign word if I can find an English synonym. The English word is certain to be understood by anyone to whom the letter may conceivably be forwarded, whereas the foreign word quite possibly may not be.

Regarding the actual word "Āl". By "ayal" (family) I think you must mean "ayāl" (with an 'ain) or more correctly "iyāl" which is commonly used in Persian. In Arabic, however, I have only heard "iyāl" used as the plural of "āilah", the usual word for "family" or "women folk". I do not think "Āl" can have any connection with this, as the 'ain is a very strong letter in Arabic, and one which is not likely to be lost. Butrus al-Bustāni, the author of the "Muhīt al-Muhīt" (one of the best Arabic dictionaries there is) says it is a contraction for "ahl", and I think this is much more probable.

Whatever its derivation is, it is absolutely certain that "Āl" has no etymological connection with "al" the article. I quite agree

The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.



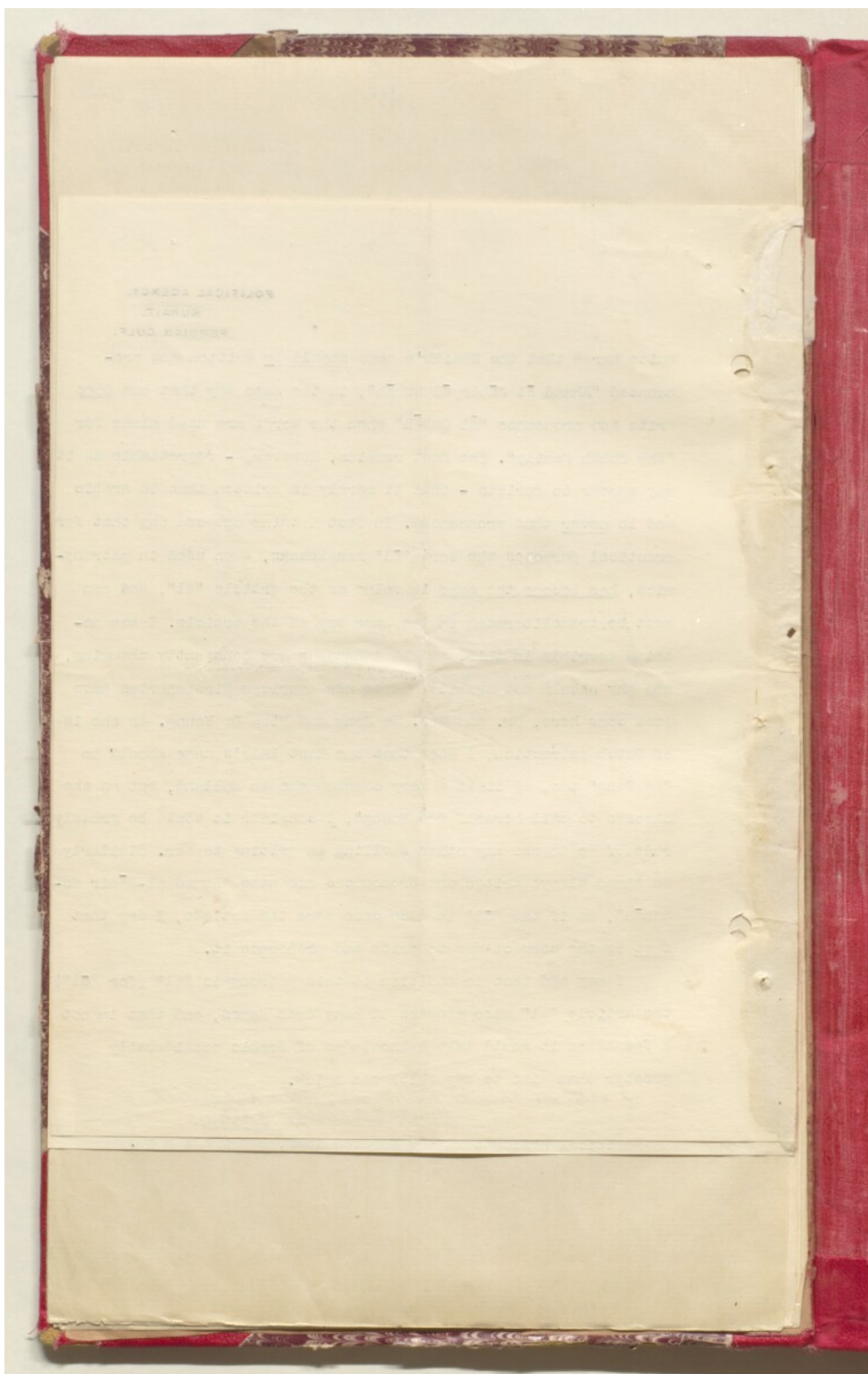


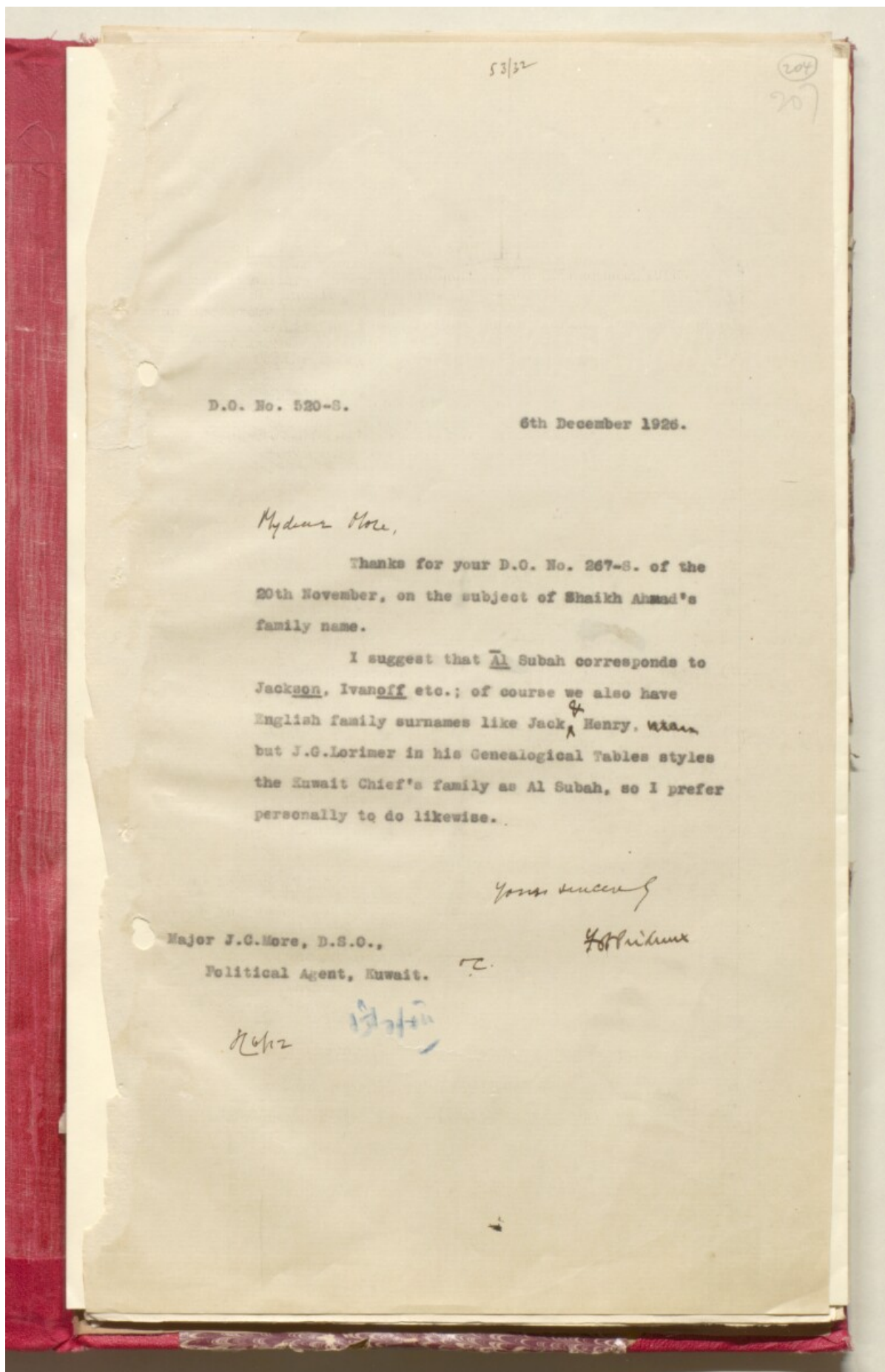
206 (203)
POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

quite agree that the Shaikh's name should be written and pronounced "Ahmad Āl Jābir Āl Subāh", in the same way that one does write and pronounce "Āl Subāh" when the words are used alone for "the Subah Family". The fact remains, however, - regrettable as it may appear to purists - that it rarely is written thus in Arabic and is never thus pronounced. In fact I think one can say that for practical purposes the word "Āl" ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, when used in patronymics, has become the same in value as the article "al", and can best be transliterated in the same way as the article. I see nothing terrible in this, as all languages are constantly changing, and why should not Arabic? Three new American Missionaries have just come here, Mr. and Mrs. De Jong and Miss De Young. As she is of Dutch extraction, I know that the last lady's name should be "De Jong" too, as it is a very common name in Holland, but as she chooses to call herself "De Young", I consider it would be grossly rude of me to use any other spelling in writing to her. Similarly as Ahmad always writes and pronounces his name "Ahmad al-Jābir as-Subāh", as if the "Āl" in each case were the article, I say that that is the correct way to write and pronounce it.

I may add that in addition to this patronymic "al" (for "Āl") the article "al" also appears in many Arab names, and that in not a few names it would take a knowledge of Arabic considerably greater than mine to say which was which.

*I return Shaikh Hamad's letter herewith
yours sincerely J.C. Hall*





D.O. No. 520-S.

6th December 1926.

My dear More,

Thanks for your D.O. No. 267-S. of the 20th November, on the subject of Shaikh Ahmad's family name.

I suggest that Al Subah corresponds to Jackson, Ivanoff etc.; of course we also have English family surnames like Jack, [&] Henry, ~~Wain~~ but J.G. Lorimer in his Genealogical Tables styles the Kuwait Chief's family as Al Subah, so I prefer personally to do likewise.

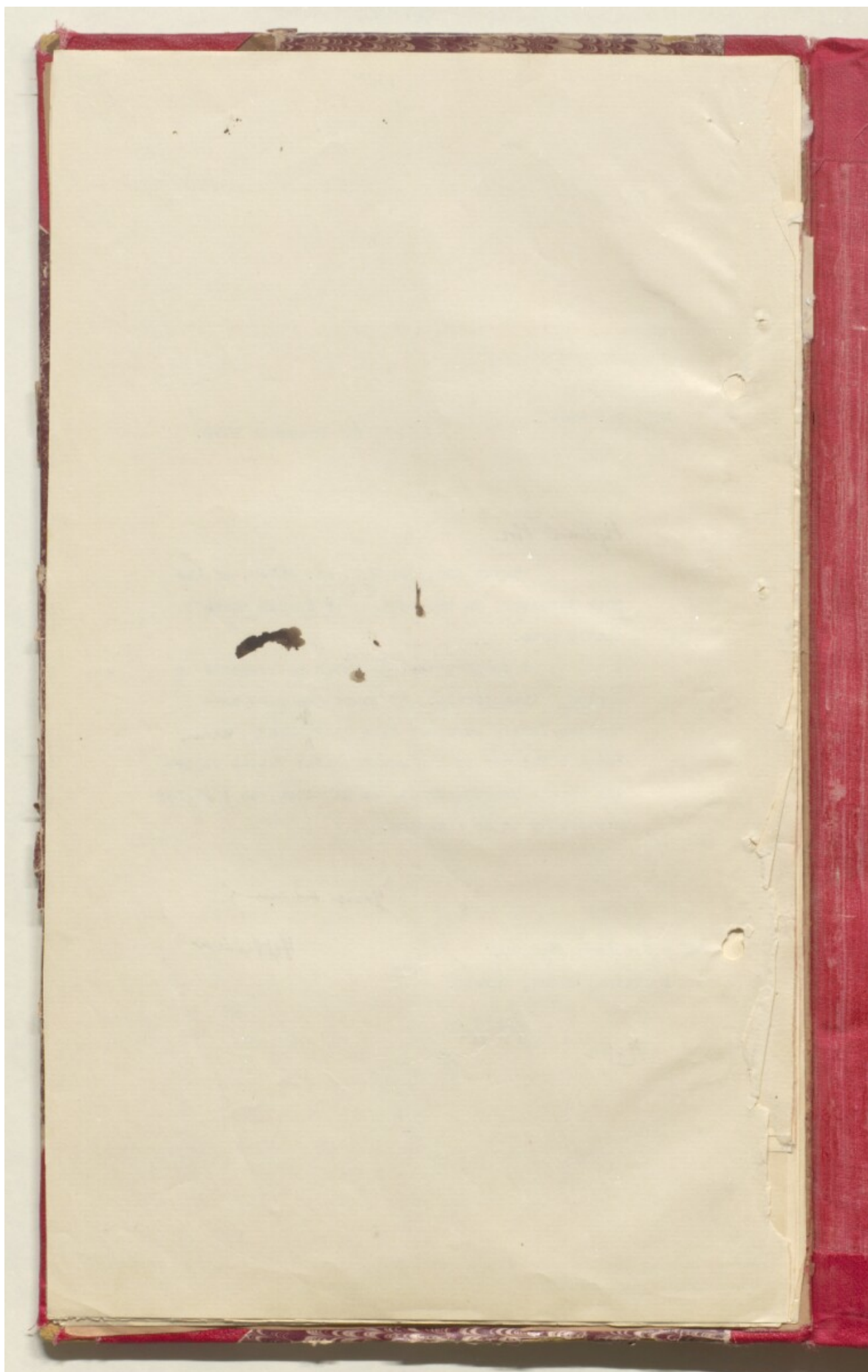
Yours sincerely

J.G. Lorimer

Major J.G. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

20/12

13/12





CONFIDENTIAL.

Copy of a memorandum, No. S/44 dated the 2nd February 1927, from the Administrative Inspector, Basrah Liwa, Basrah, to the Political Agent, Kuwait:-

There is a rumour current in the local bazaars that His Majesty's Government have addressed a note to Shaikh Ahmad al-Mubarak, in which he is given the choice of accepting the suzerainty of either the Government of India, the Government of 'Iraq or Ibn Sa'ud.

It is further rumoured that the Shaikh has been given six months in which to consider the proposal, and that he has opened negotiations with Ibn Sa'ud.

No. 35-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg.	169
D.	24.2.27
RECORDS.	

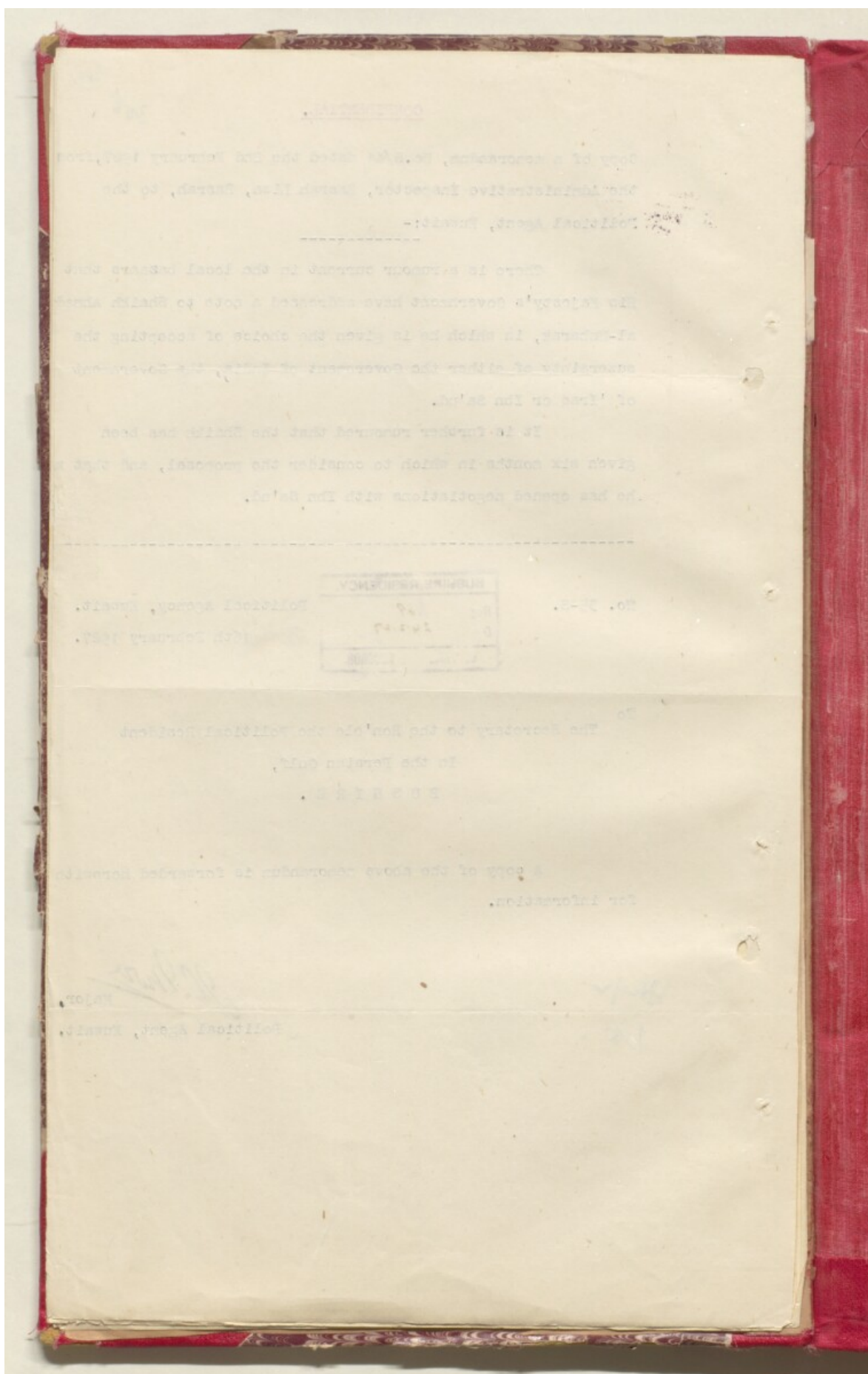
Political Agency, Kuwait.

16th February 1927.

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
In the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

A copy of the above memorandum is forwarded herewith for information.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





CONFIDENTIAL.

Np. 46-S.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

4th March 1927.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 217
Date 9.3.27
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

Mare.

MEMORANDUM.

Reference the correspondence ending with your memorandum No. 502-S dated the 27th November 1926, relative to the mare which, according to Ibn Jiluwi, could not be returned to its owner as it had died.

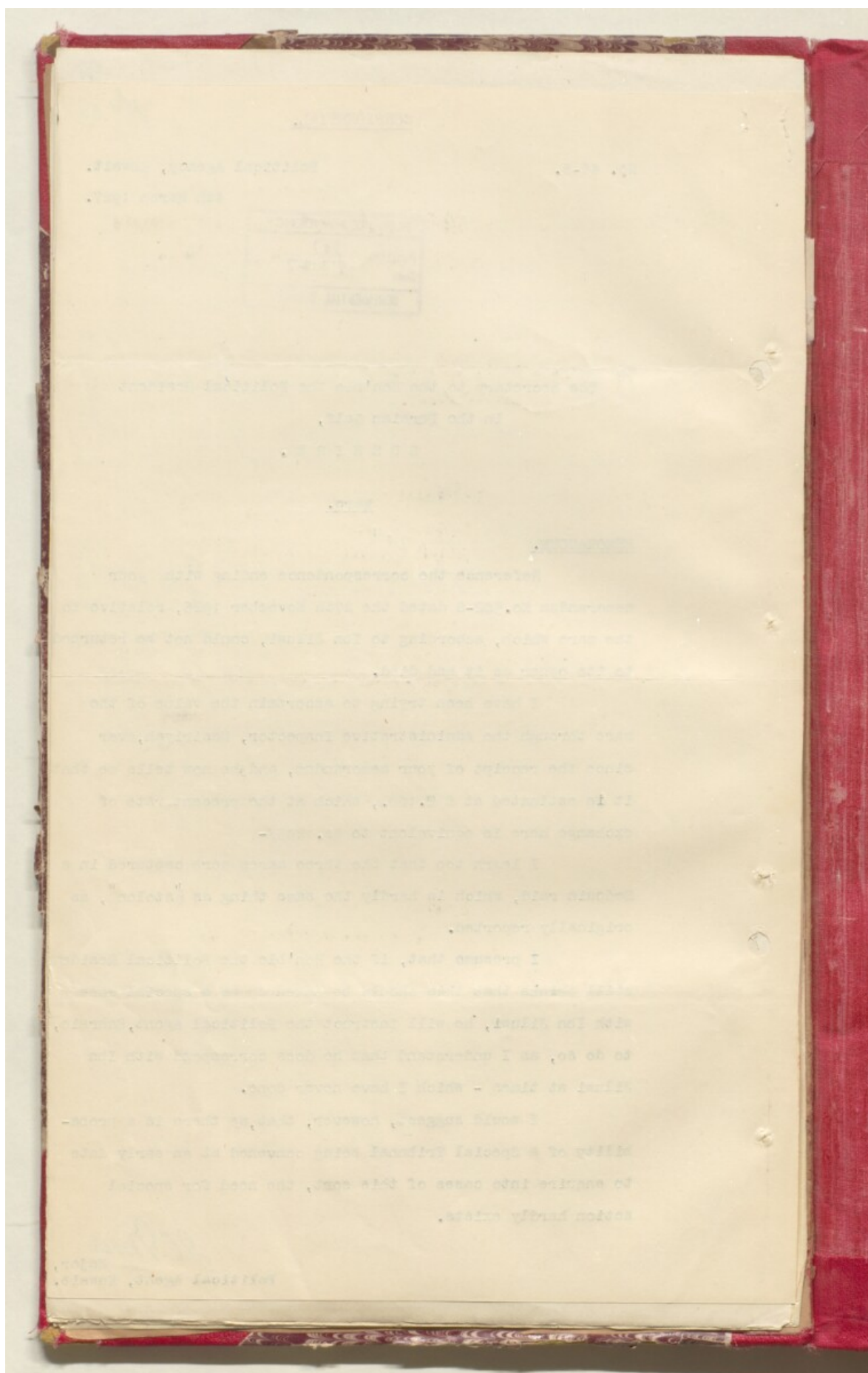
I have been trying to ascertain the value of the mare through the Administrative Inspector, Nasiriyah, ever since the receipt of your memorandum, and he now tells me that it is estimated at £ T. 100., which at the present rate of exchange here is equivalent to Rs. 1205/-

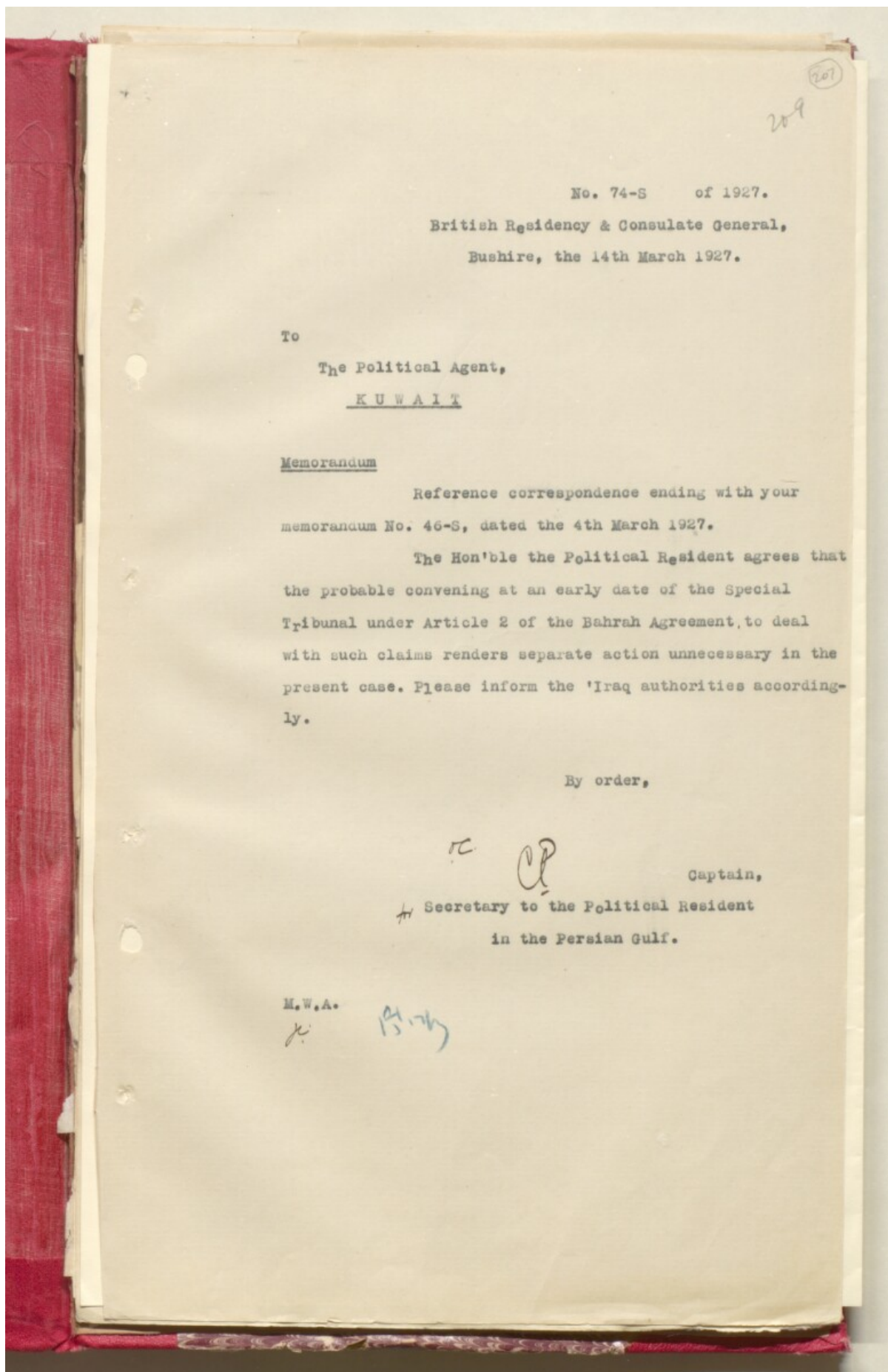
I learn too that the three mares were captured in a Bedouin raid, which is hardly the same thing as "stolen", as originally reported.

I presume that, if the Hon'ble the Political Resident still thinks that this should be taken up as a special case with Ibn Jiluwi, he will instruct the Political Agent, Bahrain, to do so, as I understand that he does correspond with Ibn Jiluwi at times - which I have never done.

I would suggest, however, that, as there is a probability of a Special Tribunal being convened at an early date to enquire into cases of this sort, the need for special action hardly exists.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





No. 74-S of 1927.

British Residency & Consulate General,
Bushire, the 14th March 1927.

To
The Political Agent,
KUWAIT

Memorandum

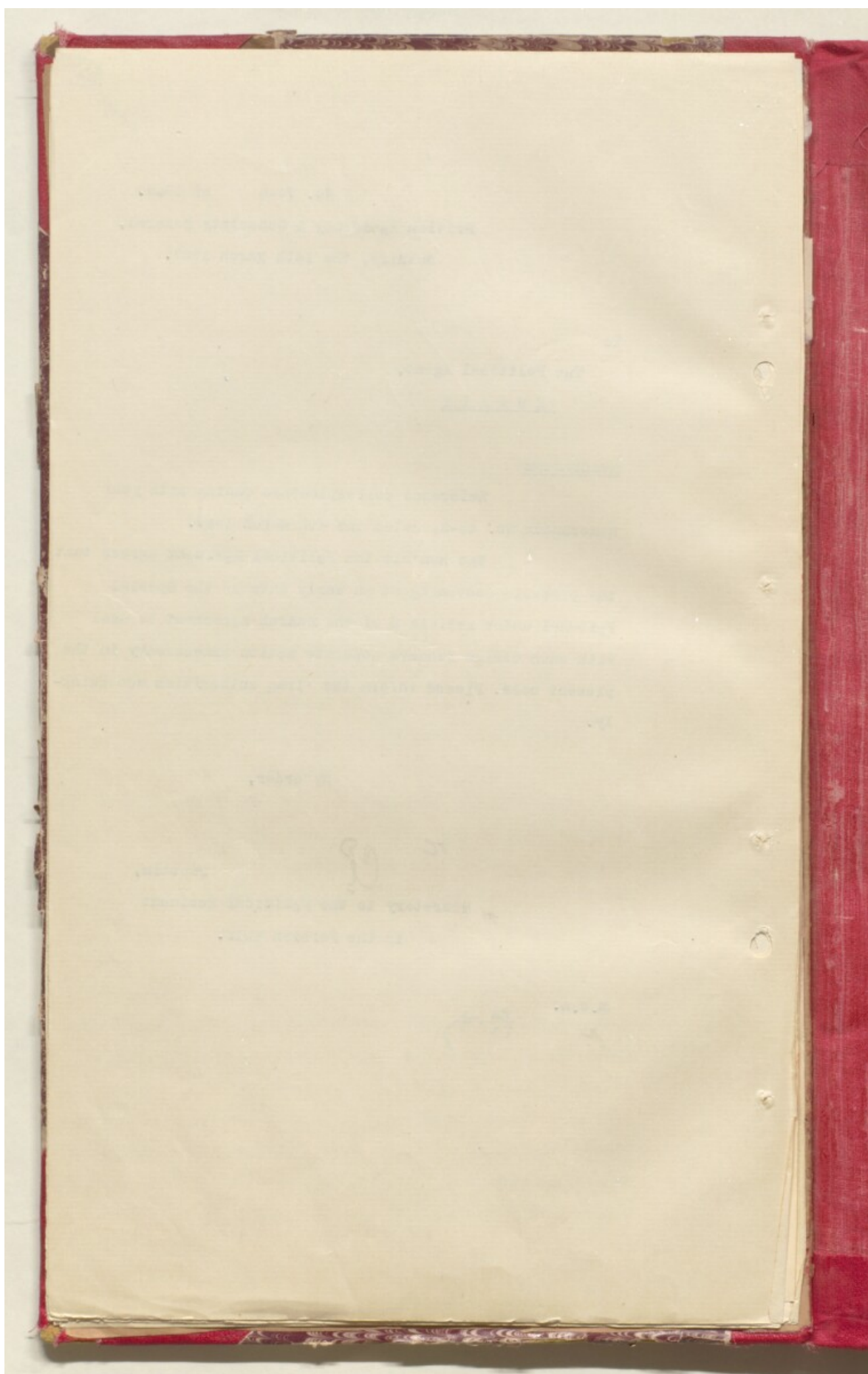
Reference correspondence ending with your
memorandum No. 46-S, dated the 4th March 1927.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident agrees that
the probable convening at an early date of the Special
Tribunal under Article 2 of the Bahrah Agreement, to deal
with such claims renders separate action unnecessary in the
present case. Please inform the 'Iraq authorities accordingly.

By order,

rc CP
Captain,
Secretary to the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf.

M.W.A.
15.7.27





Telegram C.O.1

From Highcoma, Baghdad.

To Resident, Bushire.

No. 133

Dated 20th and received 21st March 1927.

Added to Colonial Office, repta Delhi, Bushire No. 45-S. King Feisal tells me that Shaikh of Kuwait has written proposing to pay him a visit and asks if I see any objection.

Feisal would probably arrange to receive him when he next visits Basrah.

I said I saw no objection, but please confirm this.

HIGHCOMA.

Telegram I.O.17

From Resident, Bushire.

To Political, Kuwait.

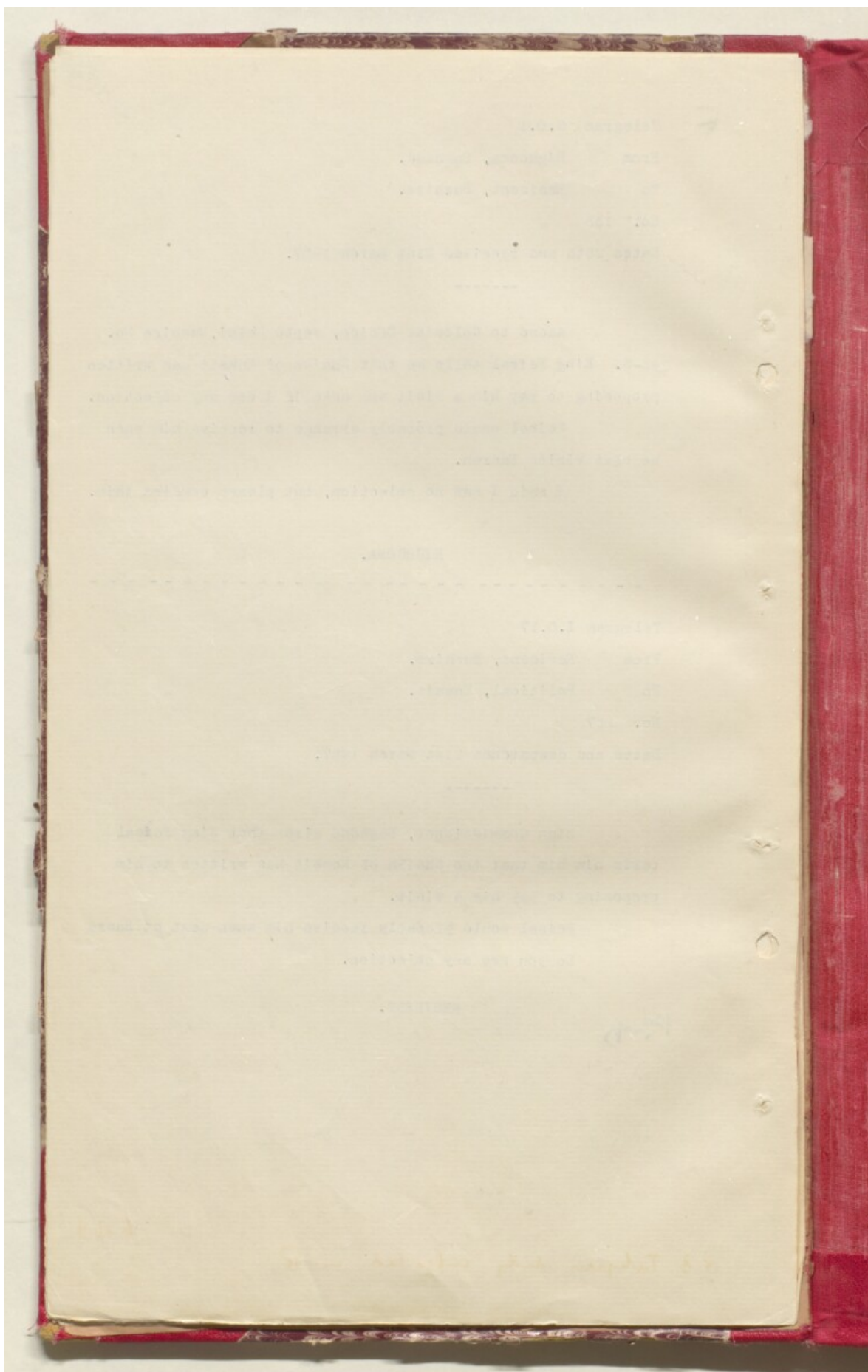
No. 257

Dated and despatched 21st March 1927.

High Commissioner, Baghdad wires that King Feisal tells him that the Shaikh of Koweit has written to him proposing to pay him a visit.

Feisal would probably receive him when next at Basra
Do you see any objection.

12/5/27
RESIDENT.





Telegram I.O.17

From Political, Kuwait.

To Resident, Bushire.

No. 63.

Dated and received 22nd. March 1927.

Your telegram 21st. March 257.

I see no objection. Sheikh Ahmad has never expressed to me any desire to meet King Feisul, and I doubt whether he would wish to do so in Basra.

What I expect he does hope, is an invitation to Baghdad as H.M.'s guest. He has talked about visiting Ibn Saud a great deal, and has written to him more than once on the subject, but as he has not gone presumably he has been shown that he would not be welcome.

If so he may think that a visit to another King would save his face.

In any case he has said vaguely once or twice that he would like to see Baghdad some time.

Telegram C.O.1.

From Resident Bushire.

To Foreign repeated Baghdad.

No 273.

Dated and despatched 24th. March 1927.

Ref. Highcoma's telegram No. 133 dated 20th. March.

There appears to be no objection. Sheikh has not expressed to Political Koweit any desire to meet King Feisul but he has more than once expressed desire to meet Ibn Saud. Letter to King Feisul is probably due to fact that he has received no encouragement from Ibn Saud.

HAWORTH

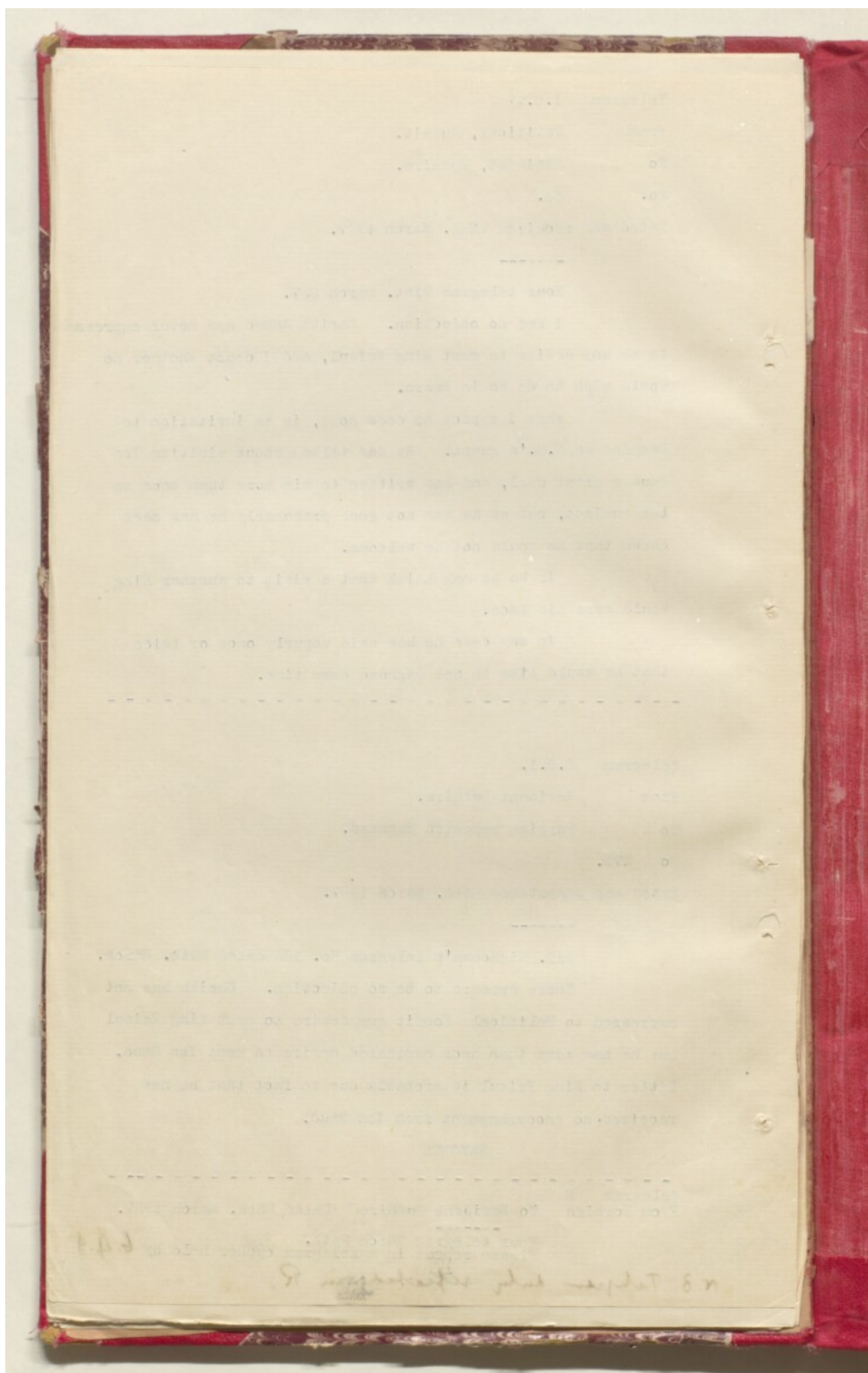
Telegram R
From Foreign

To Resident Bushire Dated 25th. March 1927.

Your telegram March 24th.

Please repeat in a ~~telegram~~ cypher held by G. F. G.

14/3/27
N.B. Telegram duly repeated in R.





Confidential. 53/32 210

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
D.O.No.477-N. Foreign and Political Department,
New Delhi, the 25th March 1927.

Proposed visit of the Shaikh of
Kuwait to the King of Iraq.

Ry de Alud

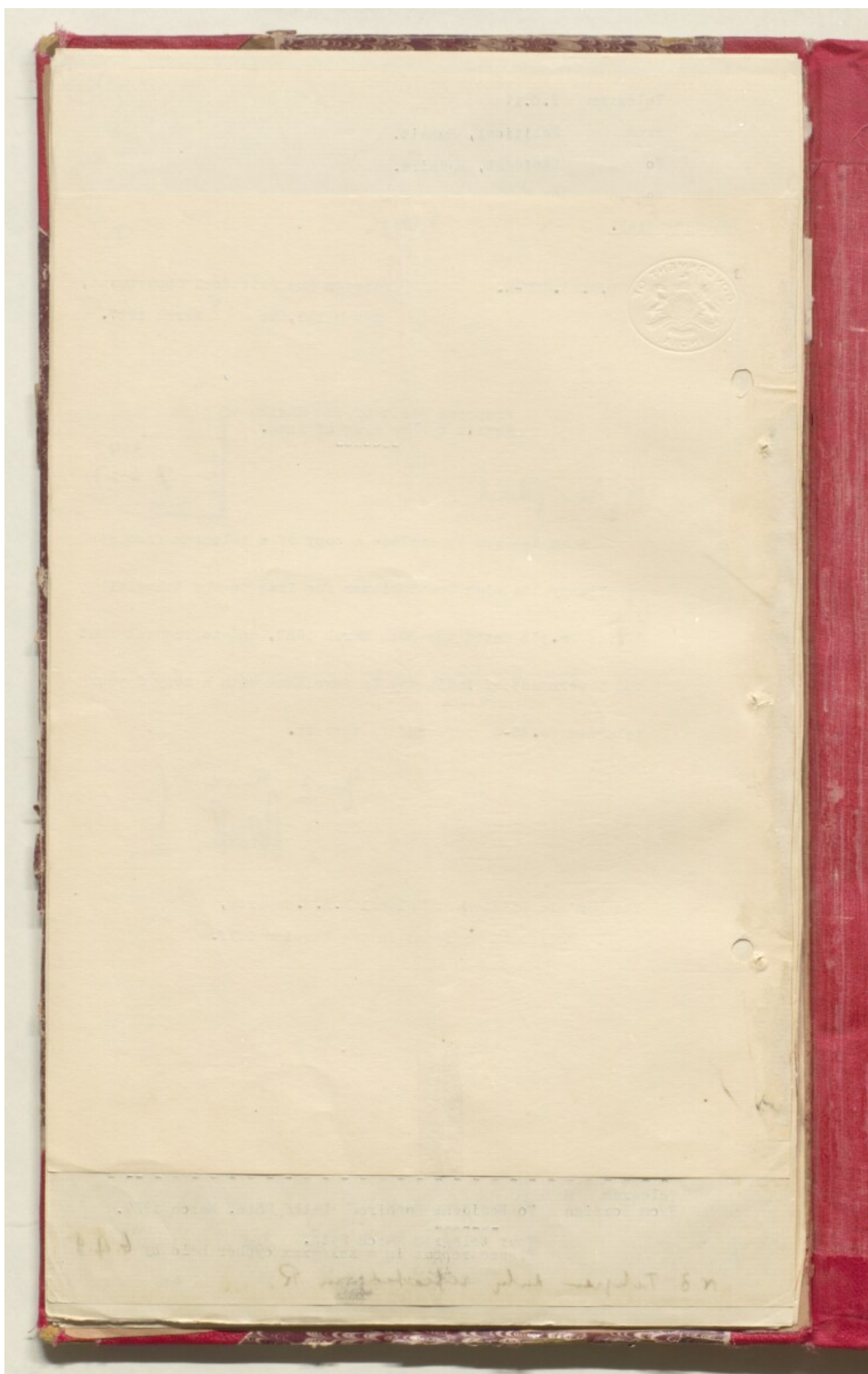
BUSINESS RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 314
Date 7.4.27.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

I am desired to enclose a copy of a telegram from His
Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq to the Colonial
Office No.133 dated the 20th March 1927, and to request that
the Government of India may be furnished with a copy of your
telegram No.45-S referred to therein.

47/4 *Yours sincerely*
Alud

To
The Hon'ble Lieutenant Colonel L.B.H.Haworth,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

With 1 spare copy.





211
213

Telegram P., No.133, dated & Recd. 20th March 1927.

From - High Commissioner, Baghdad.

To - Colonial Office, London.

(Repeated to Foreign, Delhi).

Bushire No.45-S.

I was told by King Faisal that Sheikh of Koweit has written proposing to pay him a visit and he wants to know if I see any objection. Faisal would probably arrange to receive him when next he visits Basra. I replied that I saw no objection but please confirm this.

311
 312
 Telegram 2, No. 135, dated 20th March 1937.
 From - High Commissioner, Baghdad.
 To - Colonial Office, London.
 (Referred to Foreign Office, Beirut).
 Enclosure No. 43-2.
 I was told by King Khalid that Sheikh al-Husseini was
 written proposing to pay him a visit and he wanted to know if
 I see any objection. I have no objection. I replied that I saw no objec-
 tion but please confirm this.



53/32

212
214

CONFIDENTIAL.

D.O. No. 107-S.

7th April 1927.

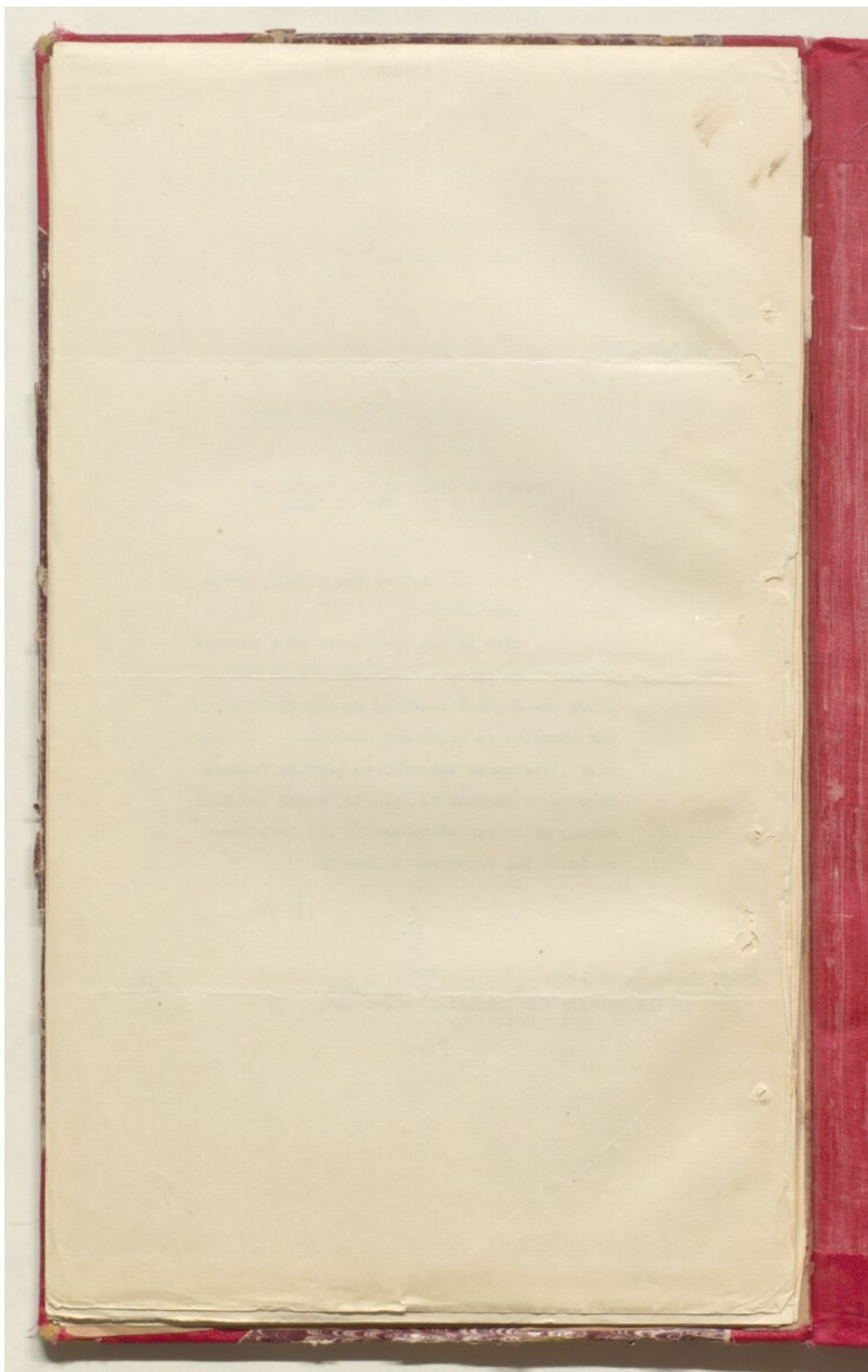
Proposed visit of the Shaikh of
Kuwait to the King of 'Iraq.

Your D.O. letter No. 477-H., dated
the 25th March 1927.

45-S is not the number of a Bushire
telegram but appears to be the number under
which the Baghdad telegram of the 20th March
was repeated to Delhi and Bushire. The
only telegram on the subject sent by Colonel
Haworth to Baghdad is No. 273, dated the 24th
March, which was addressed to the Government
of India and repeated to Baghdad.

cc. 15/8/27
Major A. E. B. Parsons, D.S.O., O.B.E.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department,
S i m l a.

9C-7/4.





53/32

SGPS 345, 669, 5000, 30-11-26

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.O. 1538

Secretariat of H. E. The High Commissioner for 'Iraq.

Baghdad 13th July, 1927.

215 / 213
H. C. F. 16

By direction of His Excellency the High Commissioner for 'Iraq, a copy of correspondence as marked below is forwarded with compliments to:—

The Secretary to the
Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 631
Date 18.7.27
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

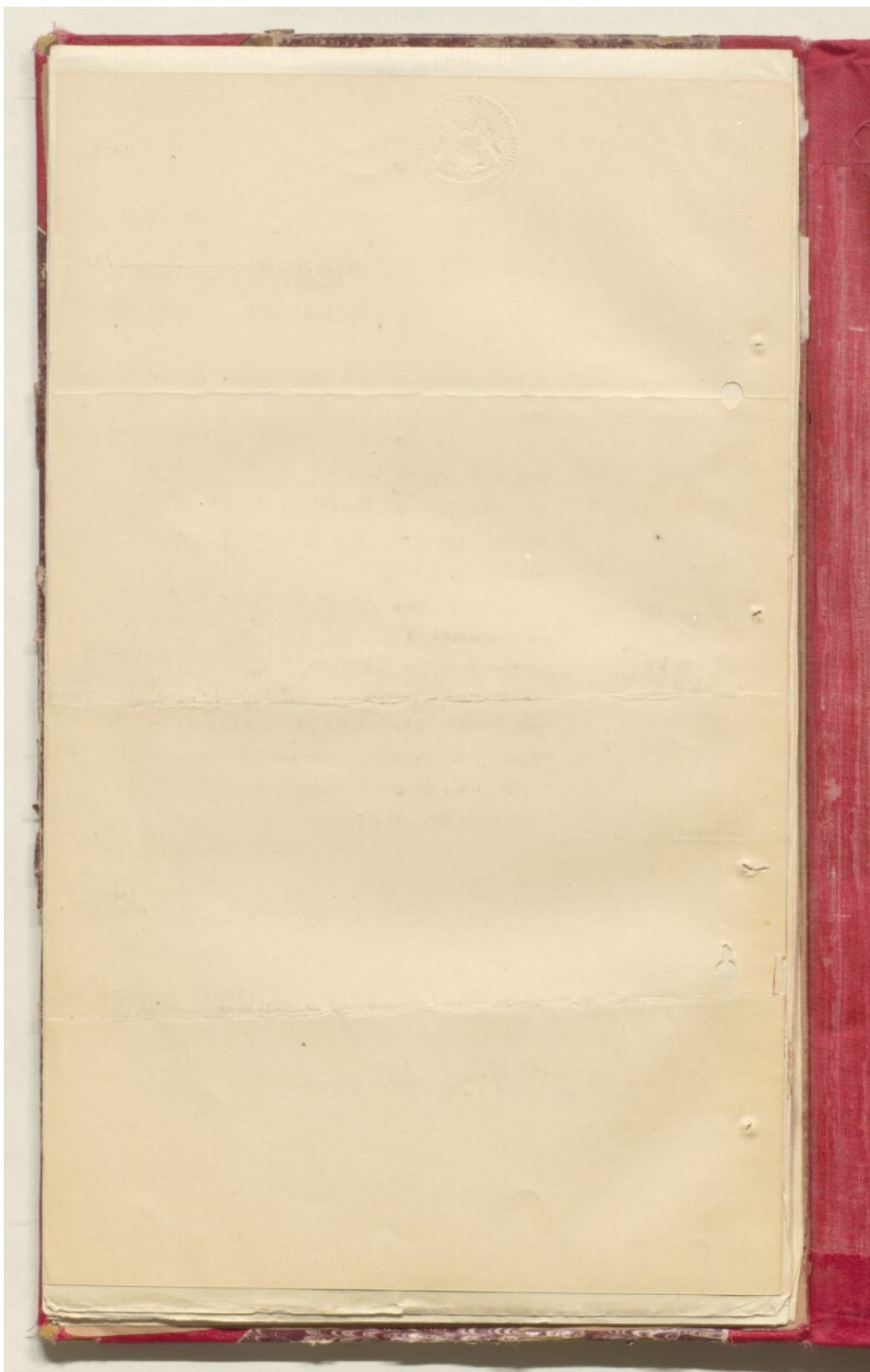
G. Crawford Clarke
for Oriental Secretary
to H. E. The High Commissioner for 'Iraq

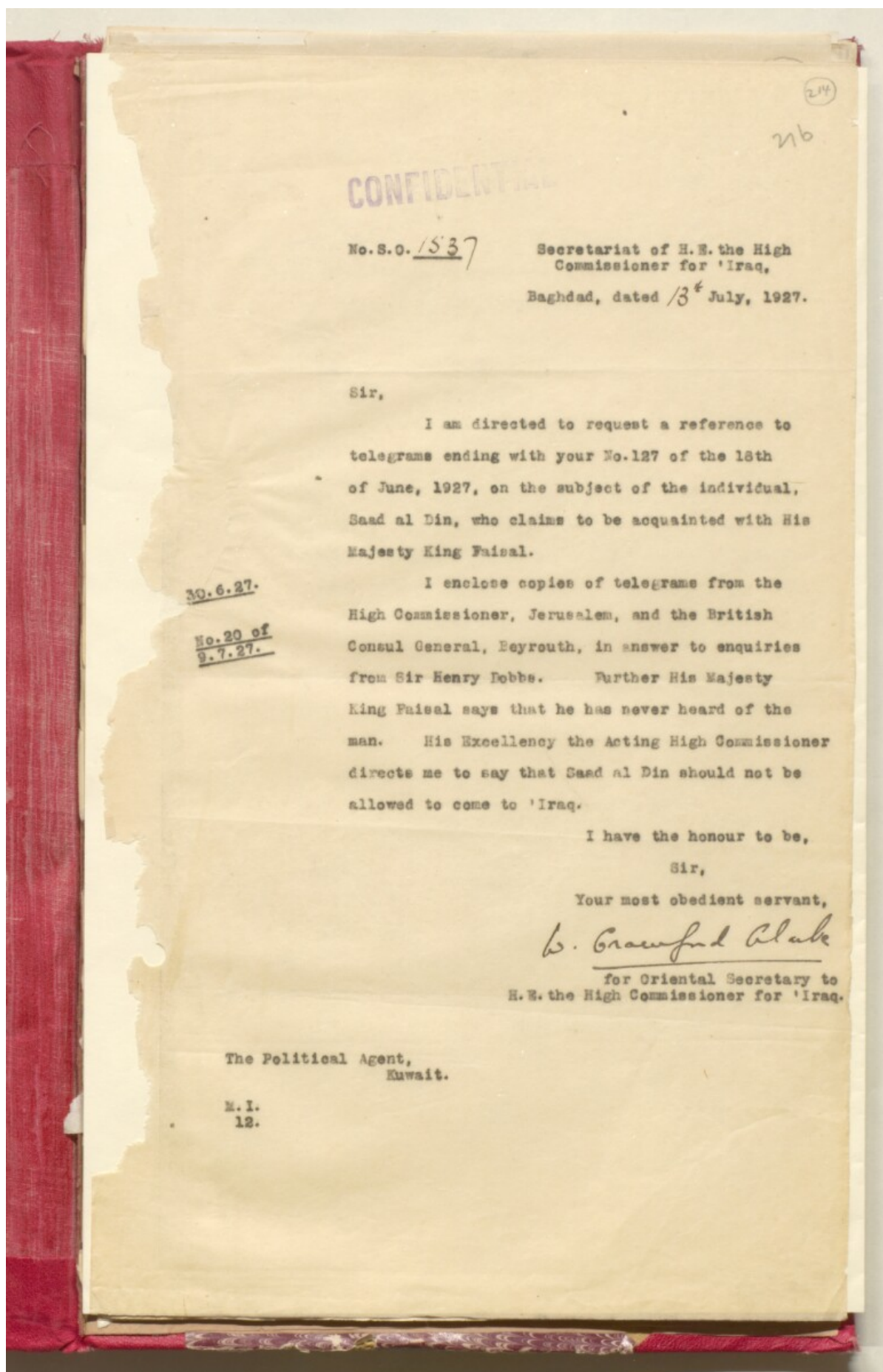
Enclosures:—

Letter No. S.O. 1537 dated the 13th of July, 1927 (with enclosures) from the Oriental Secretary to H. E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq, Baghdad, to the Political Agent, Kuwait, re: Saad al Din.

M. I.
12.

دیش
نہ دیش





CONFIDENTIAL

No.S.O. 1537

Secretariat of H.E. the High
Commissioner for 'Iraq,
Baghdad, dated /3rd July, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed to request a reference to
telegrams ending with your No.127 of the 18th
of June, 1927, on the subject of the individual,
Saad al Din, who claims to be acquainted with His
Majesty King Faisal.

30.6.27.

No. 20 of
9.7.27.

I enclose copies of telegrams from the
High Commissioner, Jerusalem, and the British
Consul General, Beyrouth, in answer to enquiries
from Sir Henry Dobbs. Further His Majesty
King Faisal says that he has never heard of the
man. His Excellency the Acting High Commissioner
directs me to say that Saad al Din should not be
allowed to come to 'Iraq.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

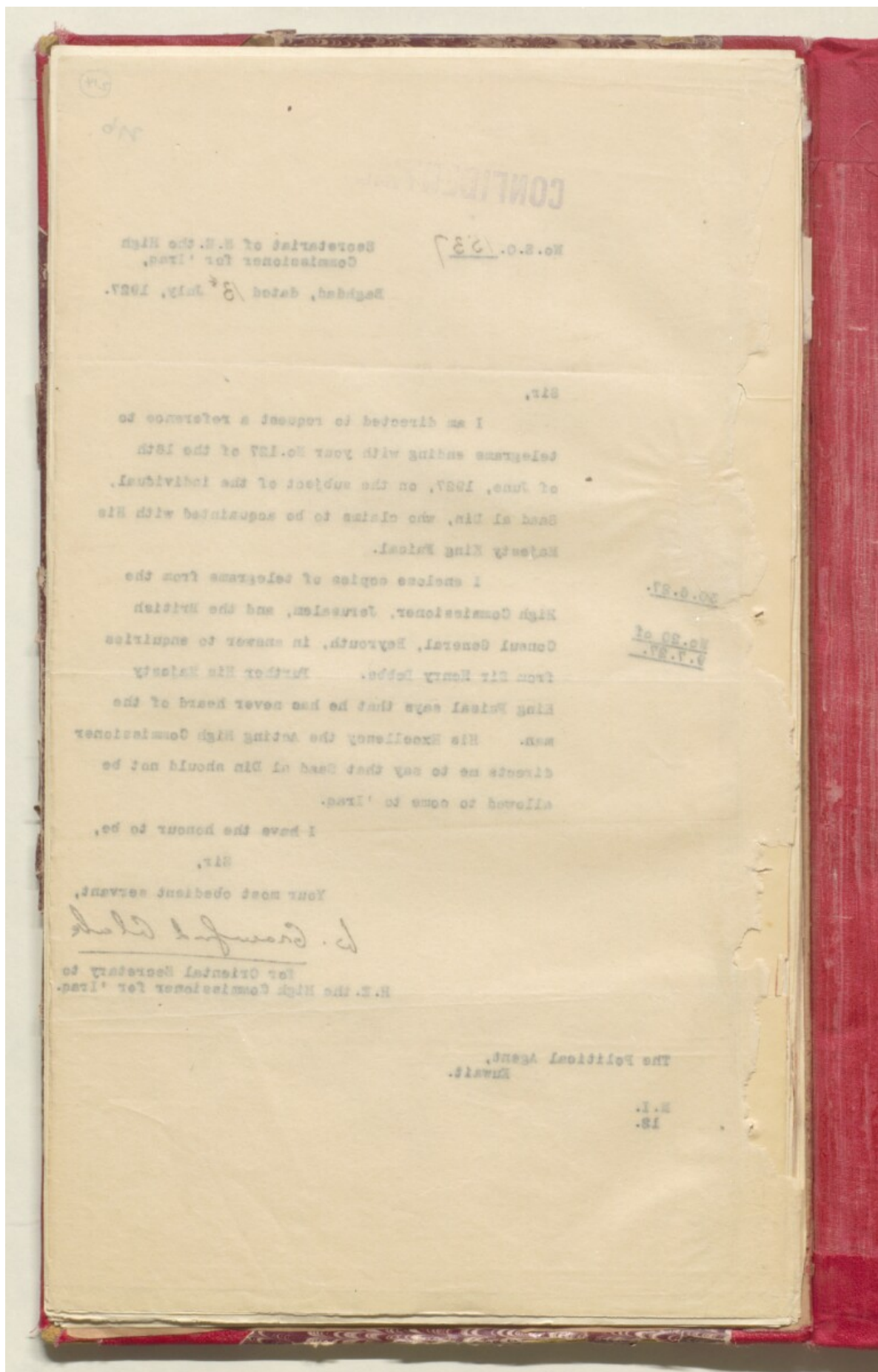
Your most obedient servant,

L. Crawford Alake

for Oriental Secretary to
H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq.

The Political Agent,
Kuwait.

M.I.
12.



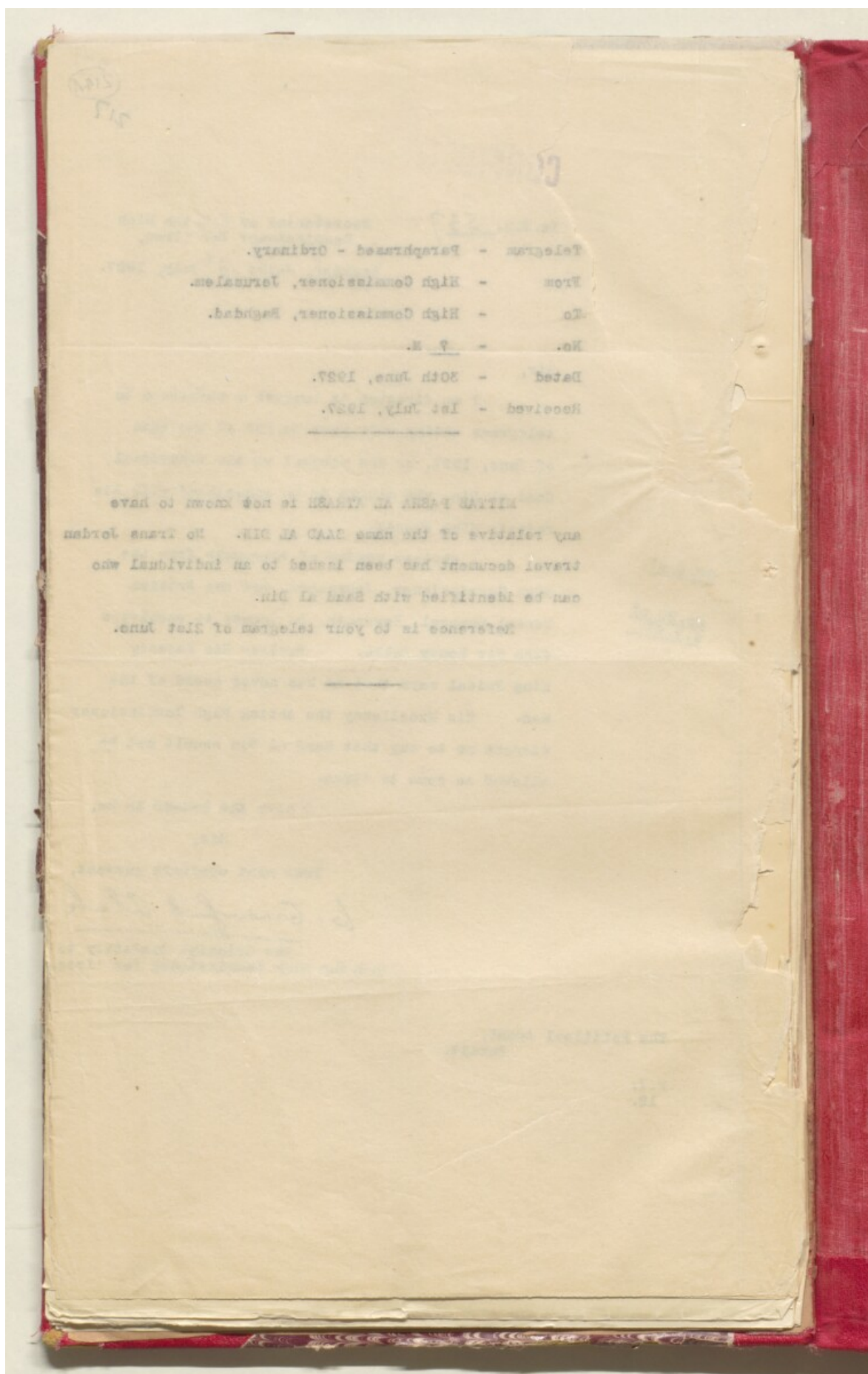


214A
217

Telegram - Paraphrased - Ordinary.
From - High Commissioner, Jerusalem.
To - High Commissioner, Baghdad.
No. - 7 M.
Dated - 30th June, 1927.
Received - 1st July, 1927.

MITTAB PASHA AL ATRASH is not known to have
any relative of the name SAAD AL DIN. No Trans Jordan
travel document has been issued to an individual who
can be identified with Saad al Din.

Reference is to your telegram of 21st June.



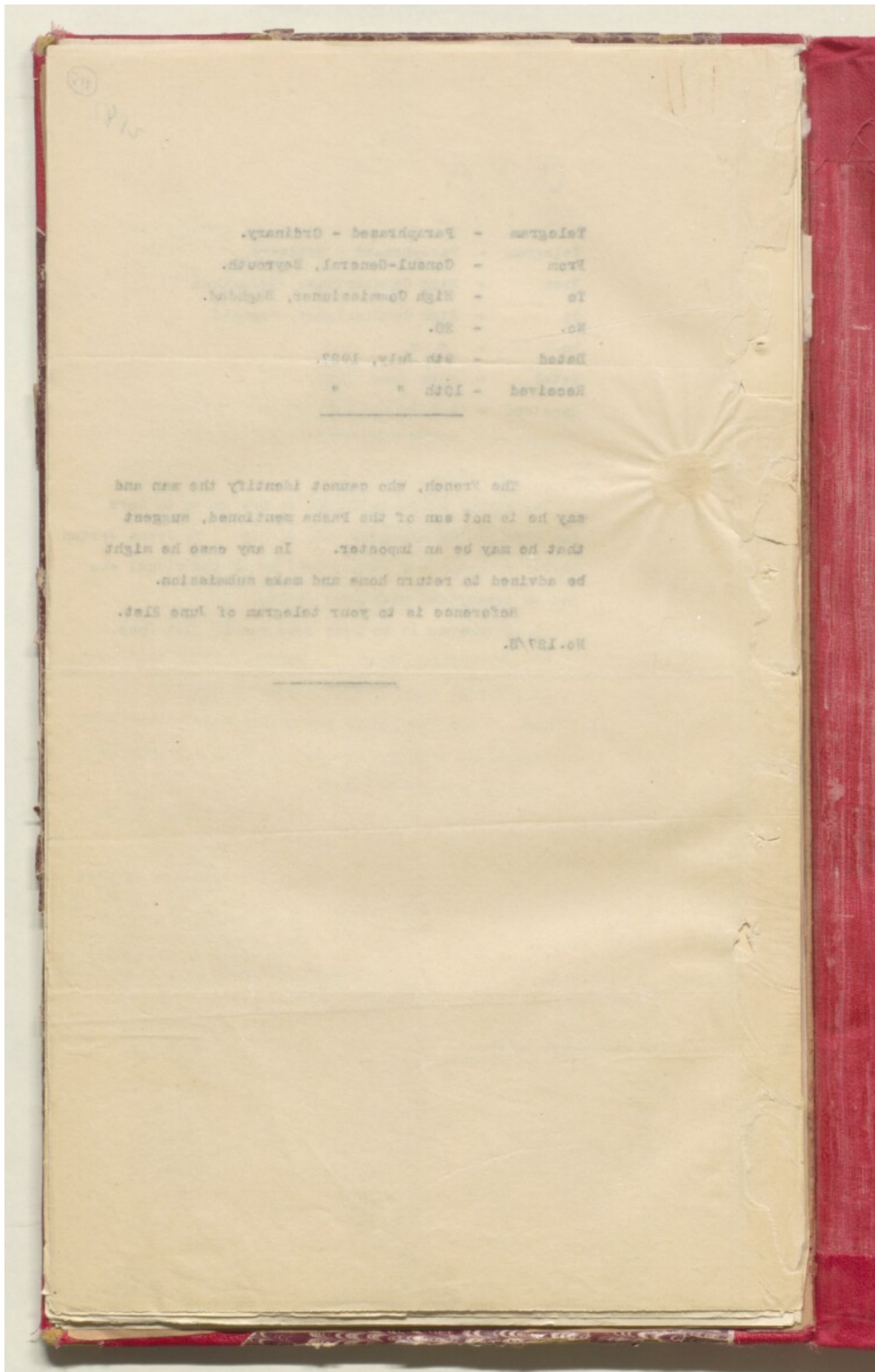


218 (215)

Telegram - Paraphrased - Ordinary.
From - Consul-General, Beyrouth.
To - High Commissioner, Baghdad.
No. - 20.
Dated - 9th July, 1927.
Received - 10th " "

The French, who cannot identify the man and say he is not son of the Pasha mentioned, suggest that he may be an imposter. In any case he might be advised to return home and make submission.

Reference is to your telegram of June 21st.
No. 127/S.





13/32

SECRET.

219 (116)

No. 248-S.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

25th December 1927.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.

Reg. No. 1190

Date 29.12.27.

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To

The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,

BUSHIRE.

Note on Kuwait.

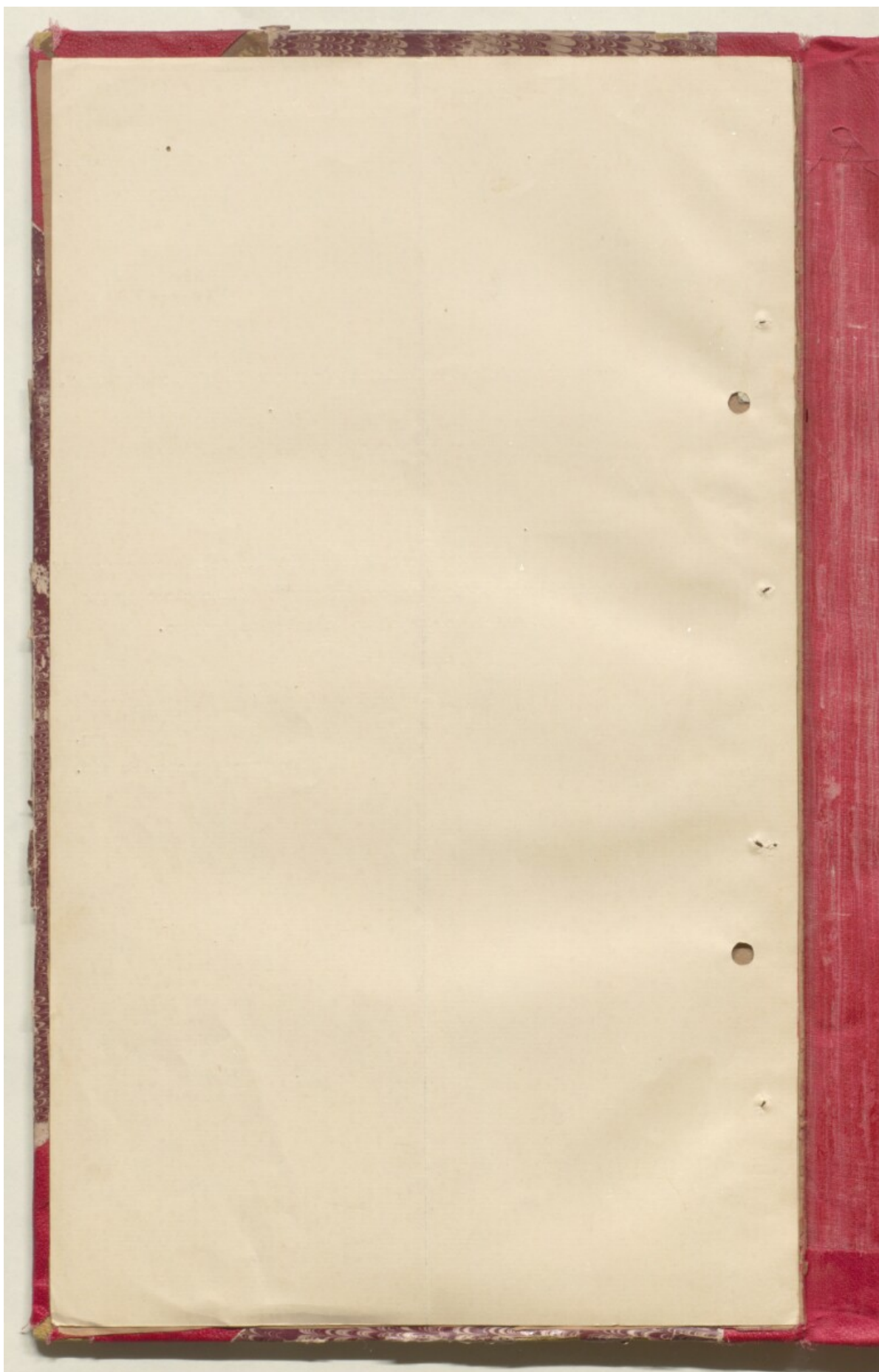
MEMORANDUM.

I enclose herewith (in triplicate, in case you may require extra copies) a Note on Kuwait at the close of the year 1927, which you asked me verbally to prepare.

J.C. Moore

Major,

Political Agent, Kuwait.





CONFIDENTIAL.

LETTER FROM THE HON'BLE THE POLITICAL RESIDENT IN THE PERSIAN GULF, NO. 21--S., DATED THE 13TH DECEMBER 1927.

I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India a copy of a note on the Principality of Kuwait at the end of the year 1927, which I had instructed Major J. C. More, D. S. O., the Political Agent, to draw up. The details of the tribes make clear the situation with Ibn Sa'ud on the Iraq frontier.

The principality of Kuwait is an independent Arab state under a virtual British Protection. It has a distinctive flag of its own: red, with the word "Kuwait" in Arabic characters in white across it.

Boundaries:—The question of the status and territory of the Shaikh of Kuwait was the subject of negotiations between His Majesty's Government and the Sublime Porte in 1913,* as a result of which the Anglo-Turkish Agreement of 29th July 1913,† was signed—but never ratified. By this agreement the autonomy of the Shaikh of Kuwait was recognised in an area, the boundary of which formed a semi-circle with the town of Kuwait as centre and the Khaur az-Zubair on its radius to the north and Qurna to the south, together with the Islands of Warbah, Bubiyan, Maskan Fialakah, 'Auhah, Kublar, Qaru, Maqta' and Umm al-Maradin, and their adjacent islets. It was further recognised that the Shaikh of Kuwait was the Tribal overlord, and entitled to levy tribute, within a larger area, the boundary of which started from the south side of the Khaur az-Zubair at its junction with the Khaur 'Abdullah and passed just to the south of Umm Qasr, Safwan and Jabal Sanam and on to the Batin; it then turned south-west and followed the Batin to Hafar al-Batin; it then turned south-east, and included the wells of Safah, Qarrah, Habah and Wabrah, and the village of Anta', and joined the sea at Jabal Mani'ah. This Anglo-Turkish Agreement, however, as stated above was never ratified.

During the rule of Shaikh Salim, the question of the boundary between his territory and that of Ibn Sa'ud became very acute, and resulted in the surprise and defeat of the Kuwait tribesmen at Hamdh near Jaryah,‡ or Qaryah as it should really be pronounced, in April 1920, and the battle of Jahrah in October of the same year. The question first arose in January 1919, when Shaikh Salim wanted to build a fort at Dauhat Balbul, just north of Jabal Mani'ah, to which Ibn Sa'ud objected, and claimed that it was within his territory. Nothing happened until April 1920, when Ibn Shuqair started to build the Ikhwan village of Jaryah, but from then onwards the relations between Shaikh Salim and

Ibn Sa'ud went from bad to worse. During the summer of 1920, both parties applied for British arbitration, and both were asked to state exactly what territory they claimed. Ibn Sa'ud* replied that he claimed the whole country up to the walls of Kuwait; and Shaikh Salim claimed a frontier similar to the outer line of the Anglo-Turkish Agreement. The High Commissioner for Iraq then invited Ibn Sa'ud to Basrah with a view to settling the dispute, but Ibn Sa'ud replied that he was unable to come at the time. In January 1921, the Shaikh of Muhammarah offered to send his son Shaikh Clasih, accompanied by Shaikh Ahmad al-Jabir of Kuwait, to Najd, to try and arrange a truce between Ibn Sa'ud and Shaikh Salim. His offer was accepted, and the mission left for Bahrain en route for Najd in February, and reached Ibn Sa'ud's camp to the north of Riyadh on the 2nd March. Two days later the news of Shaikh Salim's death reached them, and Ibn Sa'ud at once said that there was no longer any quarrel to settle, or any need for a boundary between his territory and that of Kuwait. Ibn Sa'ud had already been told that His Majesty's Government recognised the territory within the inner boundary of the Anglo-Turkish Agreement as definitely belonging to Kuwait. Nothing more happened regarding the frontier until November 1922,§ when at a Conference held at 'Uqair between Sir Percy Cox and Ibn Sa'ud, at which the Political Agent was also present, the question of a frontier between Kuwait and Najd came up for discussion. It was recognised at once that the power of Ibn Subah (to give the Shaikh of Kuwait his desert title) was much less in the desert than it had been when the Anglo-Turkish Agreement was drawn up, and an agreement was eventually arrived at by which the frontier starts from the junction of the Wadi al-Aujah with the Batin on the west. From this point, leaving Rigai to Najd, it runs in a straight line to the junction of the 29th parallel of latitude with the red semi-circle on the map attached to the draft Anglo-Turkish Agreement, || and then follows the red semi-circle to the sea. The above forms the southern boundary of the recognized territory of Kuwait, but the tract of country bounded on the north by the above line, on the west by the Shaqq, on the east by the sea, and on the south by a straight line running eastwards from the Shaqq in the west, through 'Ain al-'Abd, to the sea north of Bas al-Mish'ah, is recognized as common to the two states of Najd and Kuwait, in which both enjoy equal rights. In April 1923¶ the Shaikh of Kuwait, was informed that His Majesty's Government recognized the other frontiers claimed by him. The frontiers of Kuwait are accordingly as shown on the attached map.

* Serial No. 2 in File No. 387-X-23.

† *Ibid.*, Enclosure 2 to Serial No. 16.

‡ *Ibid.*, Enclosure 1 to Serial No. 16.

§ *Ibid.*, Serial No. 20 and Enclosure to Serial No. 21.

|| S. E., December 1913, Nos. 1-24. Encls. to Frs. No. 134.

¶ Serial No. 31 in file No. 387-X-23.

* Secret External, December 1913, Nos. 1-245.

† *Ibid.*

‡ Enclosure to Serial No. 2 in File 387-X of 1923.



Administration.—Kuwait was founded about the beginning of the eighteenth century by some settlers of the 'Utub, a sect of the 'Anizah, over whom the Subah family enjoyed predominance. It is unnecessary to consider its early history. Suffice it to say that in May 1896 Shaikh Mubarak became Ruler of Kuwait on the assassination of his brother. It was he who raised Kuwait from a place of little importance to a flourishing principality. Under his strong rule it became a most attractive place to live in to the Arab mind, and the population of the town nearly doubled itself. It would be difficult to speak too highly in praise of his devotion to the British Government. Shaikh Mubarak died* in November 1915, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Shaikh Jabir, a debonair and pleasant man, whose mildness and affability made him a popular Ruler. Shaikh Salim, another son of Shaikh Mubarak's, succeeded on his brother's death† in February, 1917. He was a very different type of man from his easy-going brother, being a stern Muhammadan and a very obstinate man. He had spent nearly all his life in the desert before he came to the throne, and hated all modern inventions. He was almost entirely to blame for his quarrel with Ibn Sa'ud and all the sorrow that it brought to Kuwait, and in short he did nearly as much harm to the State, as his father had done good. He died‡ suddenly on the 25th February 1921 to the undisguised joy of nearly all his subjects.

It has always been the custom for Shaikhs of Kuwait to rule personally and autocratically, and to avoid all delegation of authority. In the town it was their usage to give audience for an hour or two each morning in the market-place, and decide cases by direct judgement. On the death of Shaikh Salim, however, the townspeople, tired of the unnecessary war with Ibn Sa'ud which he had led them into against their will, determined that in future they would have some say in the affairs of the State, and informed the members of the Subah family that they would only accept as their Ruler one who would accept a council of advisers.

Shaikh Ahmad,§ eldest son of the late Shaikh Jabir, was chosen as Ruler, and on his return from Najd an Agreement was drawn up between him and the people of Kuwait to the effect that all criminal cases would be decided in accordance with the *Shari'ah* or Religious Law; that in case of appeal the written statements of both parties and the *Qadi's* judgement would be submitted to the *Ulama*, whose decision would be final; that if both parties in a dispute agreed beforehand for a third party to arbitrate between them, his decision should hold; that the Ruler would seek advice in all matters—external as well as internal—which affected the town; and that if any one had any suggestion to make for the benefit of the town or people, he would lay it before the Ruler, who would consult his people, and adopt it if they so advised. A council of twelve members was duly elected—six from the eastern half of the

town, and six from the western—under the presidency of one of the leading merchants. Hamad bin 'Abdullah as-Sagar. Since the early days of its election, however, this Council has never met, and in practice Shaikh Ahmad rules in much the same manner as his predecessors.

He is a mild and pleasant man of much the same type as his father. His bluff, jovial manners make him an eminently suitable person for his position in so far as the ceremonial part of his duties are concerned. Unfortunately, however, he has no strength of character, and is a lamentably weak Ruler. He is a right-minded man, and would normally like to do the right thing, but is easily swayed by his advisers—who are not always of the most desirable type. Like many weak men, he can at times be very obstinate. Although greatly desiring popularity, he is not very popular amongst his subjects, amongst whom he has the reputation of being mean. He is a strict Muslim, and is zealous in the enforcement of the prohibition against strong liquor, and also in the suppression of prostitution. He himself is a non-smoker. He is unquestionably well disposed towards the British, and is very fond of entertaining in British style. He has a suite of rooms furnished like a European house, and is fond of cinematographs, cameras, cars, and other modern inventions. He frequently drives his own car.

Shaikh Hamad al-Mubarak, the Shaikh's uncle, officiates for him whenever he leaves Kuwait. He is nine years younger than his nephew, being thirty-three years of age. His mother belonged to the Ajman tribe. He is a quiet, shy man, with no great intelligence, and no strength of character.

Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim was born in 1895. He is by far the strongest in character and most intelligent member of the Subah family. He is a well read man and can converse on many more subjects than the average man of his class. He is his cousin's only really dangerous rival. He is certainly an ambitious man, and there is little doubt that he had strong hopes of succeeding his father on his death in 1921, notwithstanding the fact that he is Shaikh Ahmad's junior by ten years. When Shaikh Ahmad was chosen as Ruler, Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim started to "assist" him, and soon got a good deal of power into his own hands, which Ahmad with his easy going nature allowed him to do. He soon started issuing orders not as the Ruler's deputy, but in his own name, and it looked very much as if he were going to become the virtual ruler of Kuwait, and Shaikh Ahmad to remain a mere figurehead—if that. After about two months, however, he overstepped the mark, by trying to introduce a sort of "civil list", with fixed salaries for all the members of the Subah family, including Shaikh Ahmad. According to the scale which he drafted he himself was to get almost as much as Shaikh Ahmad, and far more than any of the others. This produced a very stormy scene between Abdullah and the rest of the family, at which Shaikh Jabir as-Subah, Mubarak's brother, who has since died, did some very plain speaking, and Shaikh Abdullah went into retirement, and did not appear in public again for some time.

* S. E., July 1916, Nos. 138, Serial Nos. 1 and 6.

† S. E., August 1917, Nos. 44-62, Pro. Nos. 46-47.

‡ S. E., October 1921, Nos. 311-327, Pro. No. 311.

§ *Ibid.*, Pro. No. 314.

|| *Ibid.*, Pro. No. 317.



Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim next came into prominence in May 1923. Ibn Sa'ud had sent* one Saiyid Hamzah al-Ghauth to Kuwait to represent him at a Conference at which it was hoped to come to an understanding regarding the vexed question of the Nijad Customs with a view to the re-opening of trade between Najd and Kuwait. The negotiations proved entirely abortive and Saiyid Hamzah left Kuwait for Riyadh on the 19th May. He was accompanied, however, by Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim as representative of Shaikh Ahmad, who had written to Ibn Sa'ud that he saw no hope of coming to an agreement on the terms proposed by Saiyid Hamzah, so he had decided to let him return, and send a deputation of his own, headed by his cousin. Shaikh Abdullah returned to Kuwait on 27th June, and it became known that he had come to a private understanding with Ibn Sa'ud, by which the latter was to recognize him as his agent in Kuwait, with whom alone he would correspond, and was to allow trade between Najd and Kuwait to be re-opened in return for the whole of the customs dues on exports from Kuwait by land (other than those for Kuwait subjects or for Iraq), which Shaikh Abdullah was to collect and remit to him.

Shaikh Abdullah at first urged Shaikh Ahmad to settle the matter himself without consulting his people at all, but he refused to do this, and several meetings were held. Shaikh Abdullah nearly succeeded in persuading the people to take up his plan, and urge Shaikh Ahmad to agree to it, but some stood out firmly against it. Shaikh Ahmad, after vacillating for several days, finally wrote to Ibn Sa'ud rejecting his terms.

Since then Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim has kept quiet, and spends most of his time at his house at Sha'ib, outside the town.

The only other members of the Subah worth noting are Shaikh Salman al-Hamad, who is rather a distinguished looking man of forty-six. There is nothing in him, however, and he drinks. His father was a younger brother of Shaikh Mubarak.

Shaikh 'Ali al-Khalifah, a grandson of Shaikh Abdullah who was Ruler from 1866 to 1892, is a fat, cheery man of forty-four, who wears ringlets like a Bedouin and lives largely in the desert. He is the chief commander of the Kuwait forces in war, and the recognized expert on all things military. He is noted for his enormous appetite.

Outside the Subah family, the people who have the most influence over the Shaikh are:—

Khan Bahadur Mullah Salih, his chief secretary, who is a foxy, intriguing little man, with plenty of brains.

Khan Sahib Abdul Latif, his Director of Customs. A very pleasant man of undoubted ability, but not fastidiously scrupulous.

Abdul Aziz as-Salim, his agent in Basrah, where he normally lives. This man is a born intriguer, and it is common knowledge in Kuwait that he used to work—if he does not still do so—in Shaikh Abdullah's interests against Shaikh Ahmad.

The above three individuals are actually in the Shaikh's employ. The following are influential notables:—

Saiyid Hamid Bey as-Nagib, a son of the late Nagib of Basrah and brother of the famous Saiyid Talib Pasha. He lives partly in Basrah and partly in Kuwait, and owns property in both places. Unlike his brother he does not go in for politics, and, despite his high birth, he does not despise business. To him belongs the credit of making the motor road from Kuwait to Zubair, and of forming the Kuwait-Iraq Motor Transport Company. He is also the Ford agent in Kuwait. He is a well educated man, with charming manners, and I am sure that what influence he has is for good.

Hilal al-Mutairi is the leading pearl merchant of Kuwait. Born and brought up in the desert with his tribe, he was fortunate at pearl diving when a young man, settled in the town, and is now by far the richest man in the place. He is still a Bedouin at heart: he has a very fine house, but I do not believe there is a chair in it—his reception rooms being furnished with rich carpets, cushions and camel-saddles alone. At the time of the recent "revival" when the Mutairi became Ikhwan, he wavered for some time as to whether to join the movement himself or not, and got so far as to discard his head-robe and bind his kerchief with a turban instead (the outward emblem of the Ikhwan). He soon made up his mind, however, and went back to the head-robe. Still, he is very strict, and strongly disapproves of smoking, etc. He has never lost touch with his tribe, and no Mutairi ever comes to Kuwait without going to his house. He is consequently very well informed regarding the desert. He is an elderly man and his views are somewhat old fashioned, but on the whole his influence is for good.

Shamran al-Ali is the second largest pearl merchant in Kuwait, and is closely associated with Hilal al-Mutairi. Like him he has great influence. He took a very strong line in opposing Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim's Customs scheme in June 1923†—in fact, but for him it is probable that Shaikh Abdullah would have got his way, and Shaikh Ahmad been forced to agree to Ibn Sa'ud's terms.

Hamad bin Abdullah as-Sagar owns the biggest boat-building establishment in Kuwait, and has also interests in Iraq—in fact for the last year or two he has spent much more of his time there than in Kuwait. He had a very bitter hatred against the late Shaikh Salim on account of the needless wars he had inflicted upon Kuwait, and I think it is quite probable that he would have brought about a revolution before long if Shaikh Salim had not died when he did—he had already sounded the Political Agent as to the possibility of petitioning Government to depose him. It was Hamad as-Sagar who championed the proposal that the people would not tolerate another absolute Ruler; and he was president of the Council which was elected at the beginning of Shaikh Ahmad's rule—but which never functioned.

*Encl. 1 to Serial No. 1 in file No. 438(ii)—X. of 1923.

†Sub-encl. to Encl. to Serial No. 7 in file No. 438(ii)—X. of 1923.



Hamad al-Khalid is a dour, but kindly, old man of old-fashioned views. During the War he started to lead the Pro-Turk party—until Shaikh Mubarak made it clear that there was to be no Pro-Turk Party in Kuwait. There is now nothing anti-British about him.

Shaikh Yusuf bin 'Isa is a schoolmaster and intriguer who is mixed up with every underhand plot in Kuwait.

There are of course many others who are in a position to influence the Shaikh but the above are the most important. Two other men, not Kuwait subjects, whose characters are worth considering are 'Abdullah an-Nafisi and Shaikh Hafidh Wahbah.

'*Abdullah an-Nafisi* is Ibn Sa'ud's Agent in Kuwait. He is a pleasant and tactful man, who is liked by everyone in the place. Though Agent to the Wahhabi King, he is one of the heaviest smokers I have seen.

Shaikh (or Mulla) Hafidh Wahbah is an Egyptian who has been in Ibn Sa'ud's service for the last few years. He has the reputation of being rabidly anti-British, and is said to have been deported from Iraq during the War—though I do not remember his case myself—and was deported from Bahrain in 1922.* Personally I think that his reputation is largely, if not entirely, unearned; and that he was really much more anti-Daly than anti-British—he certainly did dislike Major Daly, and probably said so in Bahrain. I was naturally very suspicious of him when he came here, and watched him carefully, but have never heard of him saying or doing anything in the slightest degree anti-British. He is a well educated man but does not give the impression of being in any way brilliant. Ibn Sa'ud is not well off for educated men, and, with the exception of Dr. 'Abdullah Effendi Damlaji, I think Shaikh Hafidh is about the best I have met.

The Town of Kuwait now measures about three miles along the shore, having extended considerably in recent years towards the east. Its greatest depth, about one mile, is near the centre of the town, where the long suburb called Murqab has grown out from it towards the south-east. The streets are irregular and winding, and the town is not laid out on any general plan. Most of the houses have only a ground floor, but appear higher, owing to a parapet-wall enclosing the roof. There are over forty mosques, of which nine are Friday congregational mosques. None of them have any architectural merit. In the year 1920 the existing *Town Wall* was built by the late Shaikh Salim. It is a little over four miles in length, and has three gates. In addition to the gates, which are protected by towers, there is a tower about every two hundred yards throughout the length of the wall.

The Inhabitants are for the most part Arabs of the 'Utub, 'Awazim, Rashaidah, Bani Khalid, Dawasir, 'Ajman, 'Anizah and Dhafir tribes, besides Arabs from Hasa, etc. There are also a large number of Persians (mostly engaged in menial pursuits) and many negroes. The Jewish community numbers about 160 souls, and the Christians only a few families. Indians have

never 'made good' in Kuwait, and are much despised. There are only three or four in the town.

The Population is believed to be somewhere in the neighbour of 50,000.

Education.—There are a great number of schools of a sort in Kuwait. The Arabs conduct at least fifty two; the Persians have eleven, and the Jews and Christians one each, making a total of at least sixty five. Of the Arab schools twenty seven are for boys and twenty five for girls. These schools are not under any control by the local Government. Most of the boys' schools and all the girls' schools teach nothing but the reading of the Quran; and up to the end of 1911 no higher form of education was available in the town.

At present *The American Mission School* gives by far the best education in Kuwait, particularly as regards English, but it only has twenty boys—which is about all it can accommodate.

The Mubarakiyah School was established in 1912, about the same time as the Mission School. A sum of Rs. 85,000 was collected by public subscription, of which Rs. 40,000 was used to build a school, with many large class-rooms and verandahs round a courtyard, and the balance kept as an endowment fund. It has a Board of Trustees in charge of its affairs. Its income is derived from the endowment and the fees for pupils, who pay Rs. 2 a month each. There is a headmaster and six assistant masters and about 220 boys, who are graded in classes. The curriculum includes the Quran, Traditions, canon law, ethics, Arabic reading, composition and grammar, arithmetic, geography, history and English. It is thus far advanced from the usual mulla school, but even so it does not pretend to give more than a primary education.

The Ahmadiah School was founded in the autumn of 1921 under the auspices of the Muslim Benevolent Association, with the assistance of the present Ruler, after whom it was named. It has its own Board of Trustees. Its income is derived from the fees of students, supplemented by annual contributions from benevolent residents, and it is therefore not on a very secure basis. It has seven masters and 165 boys, and its curriculum is the same as that of the Mubarakiyah School, but it is planned to make it into a secondary school when—or if—they can get qualified masters at the salaries which they can afford to pay.

The Orphanage School for orphans and other poor boys is supported entirely by one family of wealthy pearl merchants. It has six masters and about 130 boys, and teaches the usual Quranic branches, with history and arithmetic in addition. There are eight other schools for Arab boys which teach a little arithmetic, in addition to the reading of the Quran.

Persian Schools which teach writing and arithmetic, in addition to the reading of the Quran, are three in number; while there are eight others which teach the last subject only.

Agriculture.—In Kuwait and its environs is practically nil. There are no date plantations of any value, hardly any fields and not many kitchen gardens. The villages to the south-east of

* F. No. 480-X—23.



Kuwait, supply a limited but increasing quantity of vegetables and melons. The chief agricultural centre in the principality is Jahrah, where wheat, barley and lucern are grown, as well as vegetables, and where there are some 2,500 date palms. The agriculture of Jahrah might be considerably increased if more money were sunk in it. The next most important agricultural centre is the island of Failakah, where wheat and barley are grown with some success on the clayey patches, also vegetables, and particularly carrots, which are of quite exceptionally fine quality.

The Sea Fisheries.—Of Kuwait are its only truly local produce; these are a valuable asset. Besides float-and-weight nets and lines, traps made of reed hurdles are also used; the fish enter them at the flowing tide and are left behind at the ebb. The majority of the fish caught is consumed locally but a small proportion is dried and exported to Basrah and elsewhere. The fishermen of Kuwait are mostly Arabs of the 'Awazim tribe, but there are also other Arabs and a few Persians. The boats used are practically all *Shu'ais*, the exceptions being *jahibauts*. A few of the primitive *ku'airiyahs*, or boats made of date branches are still used.

Pearl Fishing is the most important trade of Kuwait. The town possesses over seven hundred pearl boats, but many of these have not been at sea for years, as owing to the increased demand for labour elsewhere, it is impossible to find crews for them. The average number of boats from Kuwait which now visit the banks is not more than about 330, and this year it was very much smaller. The Kuwait PEARLING FLEET consists of two parts: the small boats which fish off the Neutral Zone, Sudan and Huzum; while the large boats go farther afield. The 1927 season was better than has been for three or four years, and the pearl market, which has been bad for some time is also better.

Trade.—Kuwait owes its mercantile importance to its trading and carrying fleets, and to its trade with India, and with Iraq and Persia—especially a lucrative smuggling trade. Also in normal years with the Interior of Arabia, particularly Qasim, for which it is the natural port. Since the beginning of 1922, however, this trade has been closed by Ibn Sa'ud, who has prohibited his subjects from trading with Kuwait at all. His reason for this action is that he says he is unable to collect his Customs dues on goods imported from Kuwait in the desert, and that he wants to establish a Najd Customs House in Kuwait Town, an arrangement which the Shaikh of Kuwait has naturally never seen his way to accept. Other suggestions have been made to get over the difficulty: for example that import duty into Najd should be abolished, and that the Shaikh of Kuwait should levy export duty instead and pay Ibn Sa'ud a fixed sum, but up to the present it has not been possible to come to any agreement. This stoppage of trade between Najd and Kuwait is a most serious matter for Kuwait—as also for Qasim and Hail—and the prosperity of the town has been declining ever since. The people of Kuwait are nearly all of Najd origin, and not a few of the Kuwait merchants had partners in Basrah and Unaijah, and even now the affairs of Najd interest them much more than those of Iraq.

Ibn Sa'ud.—The great Wahhabi Ruler Faisal bin Turki as-Sa'ud who died in 1865 left his throne to his eldest son, 'Abdullah. The latter's brother Sa'ud, however, rebelled against him and occupied Riyadh. 'Abdullah fled to Hail, and invoked the assistance of Ibn Rashid, who was then the most powerful man in Arabia. Sa'ud was defeated and killed, but 'Abdullah soon realized that he had gained little, as Ibn Rashid annexed the Wahhabi country, and 'Abdullah was kept a prisoner in Hail until he died.

Meanwhile the remnants of the Sa'ud, who would not submit to a foreign yoke, had gone into exile, some to the Hijaz, and others, including Faisal's fourth son 'Abdur Rahman, to Kuwait. Encouraged and helped by Shaikh Mubarak, another bitter enemy of Ibn Rashid, 'Abdur Rahman undertook the task of freeing his land from the foreigner. An attempt in 1900, failed, but in the spring of 1901 'Abdul Aziz bin 'Abdur Rahman al-Faisal as-Sa'ud, the present 'Ibn Sa'ud', setting for his father, left Kuwait with a picked following of two hundred men. When he arrived near Riyadh, he halted his party and went on at dusk with fifteen men alone. They made their way unnoticed to the house of Ibn Rashid's governor, into which they forced an entry and placed every one in it under arrest in one room. They learned that the governor, as always had gone to the fort to pass the night for greater security. They accordingly waited in the house till he returned in the morning surrounded by this bodyguard. As the cortege approached the door, the sixteen rushed out sword in hand, and, after a brief struggle 'Abdul 'Aziz found himself master of Riyadh. The following years were spent in recovering province after province from the dominion of the foreigner.

In the spring of 1913 'Abdul 'Aziz, in whose favour his father had abdicated, swooped upon Hara and turned the Turks out of the province lock, stock and barrel. Such was the state of affairs at the outbreak of the War—which affected Arabia less than most parts of the world. When Shaikh Mubarak of Kuwait renounced fealty to the Turk he really changed nothing. When Ibn Rashid marched against Ibn Sa'ud at the close of 1914, although nominally he did so on behalf of the Turks, it was really only another hand in the old match between the rival principalities of Riyadh and Hail. The rival forces met at Majma'ah, 120 miles north-west of Riyadh, and fought an indecisive battle, in which Captain Shakespeare who was with Ibn Sa'ud was killed. It was not till the beginning of November 1921, however, that the long struggle was finally brought to a close by the final surrender of Hail to Ibn Sa'ud. This brought not only the Jabal Shammar, but Jauf and all the surrounding country to the borders of Syria, under his sway.

Ibn Sa'ud's next campaign against the Hijaz started in the summer of 1924, the result of a quarrel which had long been simmering. By the end of 1925 he had captured the Hijaz and expelled the Hashimite dynasty. Thus in twenty-five years did this extraordinary man raise himself from an exile in Kuwait to be King of the Hijaz and of Najd and its Dependencies.

Ibn Sa'ud is now a man of about fifty years of age. He is at least 6 feet 3 inches in height, and of very dignified and handsome appearance. He possesses an extraordinary charm of

X. Here read paragraphs on 'Shipping' and 'boat building' not printed, placed after print.



manner such as I have rarely seen in any man of any race.

Abdullah bin Jilwi, Ibn Sa'ud's cousin, is certainly the second most important man of the Sa'ud family. He was one of the faithful band who accompanied Ibn Sa'ud on the desperate venture which restored the throne of Riyadh to his family, and has ever since enjoyed and merited his unbounded confidence. He was appointed Governor of Qatif on the reconquest of that province from Ibn Rashid, and in 1914 was ordered to Hama to create order out of the confusion left by the Turks, which he soon did. In fact before long he had made himself indispensable there - but for which fact, he would much prefer to lead a quiet life at home, as he is said to be absolutely unambitious. Several years older than Ibn Sa'ud, he is said to be a man of medium height and medium build, somewhat morose in appearance. He has earned an extraordinary reputation for justice.

Ikhwan, or 'Brethren', is the name assumed by the fanatical Wahhabi converts after the recent revival. It is not quite certain when this 'revival' first started, but the term 'Ikhwan' first came into general use about the beginning of the War. It was then that Ibn Sa'ud decided to turn his attention to it as a means of strengthening and consolidating his power. The story goes that Ibn Jilwi warned him against it and said "they would certainly make a useful weapon, but I fear that they may be like an automatic pistol which certainly fires fast, but with which there is a danger that when you put it in your belt it may go off and wound you". To this Ibn Sa'ud is said to have replied: "Don't be frightened of that, when I've done with my pistol, I'll unload it and throw the cartridges on the ground". He did realise however that it was vital to get the members of the new cult under control. In 1914 he issued his famous order that all Bedouins of Najd must join the movement. This led to much fighting, but by 1918 he had forced all except the 'Ajman to do so, and to recognize him as their *Imam*. In order to keep these tribes under his control, he induced his religious leaders to issue a *fatwah* that the Ikhwan should build themselves villages and till the soil, this being incumbent on them from a religious point of view. The order seems to have been responded to with enthusiasm in most cases. The progress of the movement was most cleverly managed, and Ibn Sa'ud showed great genius in working out the scheme without estranging the people. He himself selected the site for each Ikhwan village. With a tribe which was not of itself keen to join the movement his method seems to have been to send for the Shaikh and tell him in blunt terms that his tribe had no religion. He would then order the Shaikh to attend a course of instruction at a school of Religion. At the same time half a dozen selected instructors, attended by some genuine fanatic like Faisal ad-Dawish, would be sent off to the tribe. These would hold daily classes, and it rarely took them long to rouse the dormant fanaticism inherent in simple and savage people. These teachers insisted on all converts wearing a white turban over the kerchief in place of the head-robe (Ibn Sa'ud has since decreed that this is not necessary, and he himself always wears the head-robe). The strictest puritanism is the keynote of their religion, and the use of tobacco

is regarded by them as decidedly a sin as the drinking of alcohol. They themselves are all Brethren, but like all new converts to any religion they are very intolerant. They will not even salute, or return the salute of, anyone outside their own sect, or even allow that he is a Muslim. I remember Shikh Salim having one flogged for swaggering up to a shop-keeper in Kuwait and saying as he pointed to some of his wares "Ala cham, ya chafir? How much is it, infidel?".

Of the tribes most closely associated with Kuwait the most important are:-

The Mutair, a large tribe said to be of Hijaz origin, and closely akin to the Harb and the 'Utaiyah. Until they became Ikhwan the Mutair were one of the most typical Bedouin tribes of Central Arabia, with a range from near Kuwait town in the north, westward to the Batin, to Qasim and the northern part of Hama in the south. Since their "conversion" however, the majority of them have settled, notably at Artawiyah (250 miles south, south-west of Kuwait, and 150 miles north, north-west of Riyadh), which is one of the most famous Ikhwan villages in Arabia, and the seat of the most powerful Shaikh of the tribe, the fanatical Faisal ad-Dawish. Another of their villages is Jaryah (125 miles south of Kuwait) the seat of Ibn Shuqair, the building of which in 1920 was one of the causes of the quarrel between Ibn Sa'ud and Shaikh Salim.

The original sections of the Mutair are only two, the 'Utaiyah and the Buraih. But to these have been added in recent times, probably by a fission from the Buraih, a third section, the Bani 'Abdallah. During the struggle for supremacy at the beginning of the century the Bani 'Abdallah sided with Ibn Rashid while the majority of the tribe were partisans of Ibn Sa'ud. After the defeat of Ibn Rashid they rejoined the main body of the Mutair, but the reconciliation was only temporary, and they have separated themselves again, and left the tribe for the country between Najd and Mecca.

The 'Utaiyah consist of two sub-sections, the Muwahab, which is Faisal ad-Dawish's own sub-section, and of which the other chief Shaikhs are Jufra al-Fuqm, Haif al-Fuqm and Ibn Ghunaiman; and the Jiblan, of which the chief Shaikhs are Faisal bin Suiblan and Saihud bin Lami.

The Buraih are composed of three main sub-sections, the Aulad Ali, the Aulad Wasil and the Birzan, all of which are under the leadership of Ibn Musaiyis of the Aulad Wasil. To the Birzan belong the notorious family of Abu Shuwairibat, the members of which caused so much trouble to the peace of the frontier a few years ago.

The Mutair have suffered heavily in the recent wars, particularly at the battle of Jahrah in October 1920, and in the fighting outside Hail in September 1921, and it is probable that the total strength of the tribe does not now exceed 9,000 souls.

Faisal ad-Dawish's authority as paramount Shaikh of the Mutair has been much consolidated by the change of religion. The tribe, as is also the case with other Ikhwan tribes, is not now well armed.



The 'Ajman, usually pronounced 'Aiman—the singular of which is 'Ajmi (Aimi)—are one of the most important tribes of Eastern Arabia. Their proper summer range is the Gulf lowlands from Taif to 'Uqair ('Ujair) enveloping the Hasa oasis on the north and east. Inland their country stretches back over the Summan, and in winter as far as Sudair. On the littoral they have sometimes straggled into Qatar, and frequently to, and beyond, Kuwait town. Some settled 'Ajman, detached from the tribe, have for many years been found in Kuwait town, and in the coastal villages to the south of it. The tribe is a strong one, although their claim to be able to turn out over 10,000 fighting men, including 2,000 horsemen, is probably exaggerated; yet there is little doubt that they number over 30,000 souls. In politics they have always been a shifting and inconstant factor. During the Ottoman occupation of Hasa and Qatif they were constantly recalcitrant. They welcomed Ibn Sa'ud when he invaded Hasa in 1913, but, once he was established, liked him and his taxes no better than the Turks. In 1915 he organized a campaign against them but was defeated in an abortive night attack, and his own brother, Sa'd, was killed. Later on, with the assistance of a Kuwait force under Shaikh Salim, he hemmed them in near the Qatif coast. After being besieged for some time the 'Ajman surrendered to Shaikh Salim, who sent them to Kuwait, where Shaikh Mubarak accepted them, against Ibn Sa'ud's wishes, who wished to further avenge his brother's death. Soon after this Shaikh Mubarak died, and Shaikh Jabir, in order to placate Ibn Sa'ud, ejected the 'Ajman from Kuwait territory. After making overtures first to 'Ujaimi as-Sadun and then to Ibn Rashid, they obtained permission from the Shaikh of Zubair to settle quietly at Safwan. On the occasion of Ibn Sa'ud's visit to Kuwait and Basrah in November 1916 a truce was arranged between him and the 'Ajman. In the middle of 1917 however Ibn Sa'ud induced the Awazim to leave Kuwait territory and settle in Najd. Shaikh Salim, who was then Ruler, retaliated by seducing the 'Ajman, who moved *en masse* into Kuwait territory. Eventually after much correspondence, Ibn Sa'ud agreed to restore the Awazim if Shaikh Salim would turn out the 'Ajman and cut off his relations with the Shammar. The Awazim were returned, but the 'Ajman remained in Kuwait territory. By the beginning of 1918 the question had become such a burning one that it was decided to take the tribe under British protection, and they were settled to the north of Zubair. Here they were guilty of so much raiding that Ibn Sa'ud was eventually told that, so far as the British were concerned, there was no objection to his taking action against them. About a year later the 'Ajman again acknowledged their allegiance to Ibn Sa'ud and returned to Najd. Since then they have become Ikhwān.

The paramount chieftainship of the 'Ajman is in the Hithlain family of the Najrah sub-section of the Ma'dh section of the tribe, the present holder being Dhaidan al-Hithlain. His headquarters is at Sarar (165 miles south of Kuwait).

The chief sections of the tribe are the Arjah under Saikh Mani bin Jum'ah; the Dha'in, under Shaikh Fahad bin Sa'd; the Hadi, under Shaikh Nahar al-Mutalaqqim (recently in 'Iraq); the Hajraf, the Hajjan, the Hamad bin Rashid and

the Hithlain, all under Nahar al-Mutalaqqim; the Khawaitir; the Mahfudh, under Makhut al-Muqrad; the Ma'dh, the Mifih, the Misra, the Roshid and the Salsif, under Dhaidan al-Hithlain himself; the Shamir under Sultan bin Hithlain; the Shawawilah, under Fahad bin Hithlain; the Sifran, under Mansur bin Shafi al-Munaikh; the Sulaiman, under Muhammad bin Mus'uni; and the Suraih.

The Awazim (singular Azimi) are a Bedouin tribe of the country to the south of Kuwait. About 250 non-nomadic families of the tribe are settled in Kuwait town, where one of the quarters is called after them; others possess the village of Dimnah to the west of Ras al-Ardh; and a few more live on Maskhan island, or Maschan as it is always called. The tribe has no connection with another tribe of Awazim or Hawazim found in Central Arabia, especially near Jauf. These Awazim, who claim to be of Harb origin, apparently first made their appearance in the neighbourhood of Kuwait during the early part of the 19th Century. They are divided into two main sections, the Kuah and the Ghiyadh, of which the former takes precedence. Their paramount shaikh is Habib bin Jami' of the Hadalin sub-section of the Kuah. The tribe numbers about 4,000 souls. They are pastoral nomads, fishermen and pearl divers. They are large breeders of camels, sheep and goats, also a fair number of donkeys, but few horses. In Kuwait town the fishing trade is mostly in their hands. The Awazim are recognised as an inferior tribe and intermarry only amongst themselves and with the Rashaidah. For many years the Awazim were the loyal subjects of Kuwait, and from a military point of view formed the backbone of Ibn Subah's state. During the rule of Shaikh Salim the question of their tribute was one of the chief causes of his quarrel with Ibn Sa'ud. The nomads of the tribe have now become Ikhwān, and have naturally oriented themselves towards Ibn Sa'ud.

The Rashaidah (singular Rashidi) are an inferior tribe of Kuwait and the territory to the south of it. They number about 4,000 souls and are said to be of Hutaim extraction; those in Kuwait town, who are largely of the Hirshan section, are not unfrequently called Hutaim—a term which is also applied to the Saluba, those despised tinker outcasts who are found all over Arabia. A few years ago the majority of the nomadic Rashaidah became Ikhwān. The chief shaikhs of the tribe at present are Mutlaq al-Musailim (whom I last heard of in 'Iraq) and Asi al-Musailim (who is with the Ikhwān). There are seventeen sections to the tribe, but no useful purpose is served by enumerating them.

The Dhafir is an 'Iraq tribe of Bedouins whose winter habitation is the country to the south of the railway line between Zubair and Nasiriyah. In the summer they are mostly on the Umm al-Afur island, opposite Samawah. They have for some time been flirting with Ikhwānism.

The Muntafik.—Or "Muntafiq" as the name is officially spelt in English in 'Iraq, though I have never heard it pronounced that way, or spelt that way in Arabic—are a very large 'Iraq tribe, of which a portion are still Bedouin. We are only concerned with them here in that, amongst other places, they are found in the western desert



on the right bank of the Euphrates—chiefly between Nasiriyah and Samawah.

The Shammar.—Who used to be of such vital importance in the politics of Central and Eastern Arabia, have more or less faded out of the picture. Formerly the Southern Shammar were not only a powerful nomad tribe, but also masters of the oasis of Jabal Shammar. Their paramount Shaikh, Ibn Rashid, was not only chief of his own tribe, but was also ruler of a settled principality, of which Hail was the capital. Since the fall of Hail in 1921, however, they have fallen from their high estate, and have largely joined the Northern section of the tribe.

Recent events in the Desert.—In 1923 a tendency began to be noticeable amongst Najd tribes to take refuge in 'Iraq from the exactions of Ibn Sa'ud. These even included some families from the most rabidly Ikhwan tribes like the Mutair—notably the Di'afin, a sect of the Aulad Wasil sub-section Banih section of that tribe. These refugees soon started raiding into Najd, at the direct instigation of King Faisal according to the popular belief in Najd, and made the state of the country more disturbed than it had been for years. The Kuwait Conference between Najd and 'Iraq and Trans-Jordania was watched with intense interest to see whether 'Iraq would agree to Ibn Sa'ud's demand that such refugees should be compelled to return. Big raids into, and from, Najd continued to take place in rapid succession until May 1925 when, under orders from the 'Iraq Government, these seceders from the Ikhwan tribes of Najd, who had taken refuge in 'Iraq and had disturbed the peace of the frontier for so long, started to move towards the Northern Jazirah. By the end of June 1925 the country was free from them, and an immediate improvement in the state of the country followed. A long spell of quiet and more or less immunity from raids followed—doubtless due in part to the fact that the Ikhwan tribes were otherwise engaged, the Hijaz campaign being then in progress.

Soon after the fall of Jiddah at the end of 1925 many of the Ikhwan leaders returned to Najd. Some were bitterly disappointed that the Hijaz campaign had not offered better facilities for amassing plunder. Notable amongst these was Faisal ad-Dawish. No sooner had he arrived at Artawiyah than he summoned his followers to prepare for a big raid against 'Iraq. Before he had time to set out, however, he received definite orders from Ibn Sa'ud forbidding him to proceed, and reluctantly disbanded his men. In April he visited Sultan bin Humaid, paramount shaikh of the 'Utaibah, at Ghatghat. From there an invitation was sent to Dhaidan al-Hithlain of the 'Ajman, who joined them shortly afterwards. They then apparently took an oath binding themselves together for mutual support in the event of Ibn Sa'ud wishing to take punitive action against any of them. There continued to be much talk about the strained relations between Ibn Sa'ud and the leaders of the Ikhwan, particularly the three mentioned above, who were much dissatisfied with Ibn Sa'ud's idea of organizing a civilized government in the Hijaz, and his prohibiting them from raiding across the frontier.

890 F&PD.

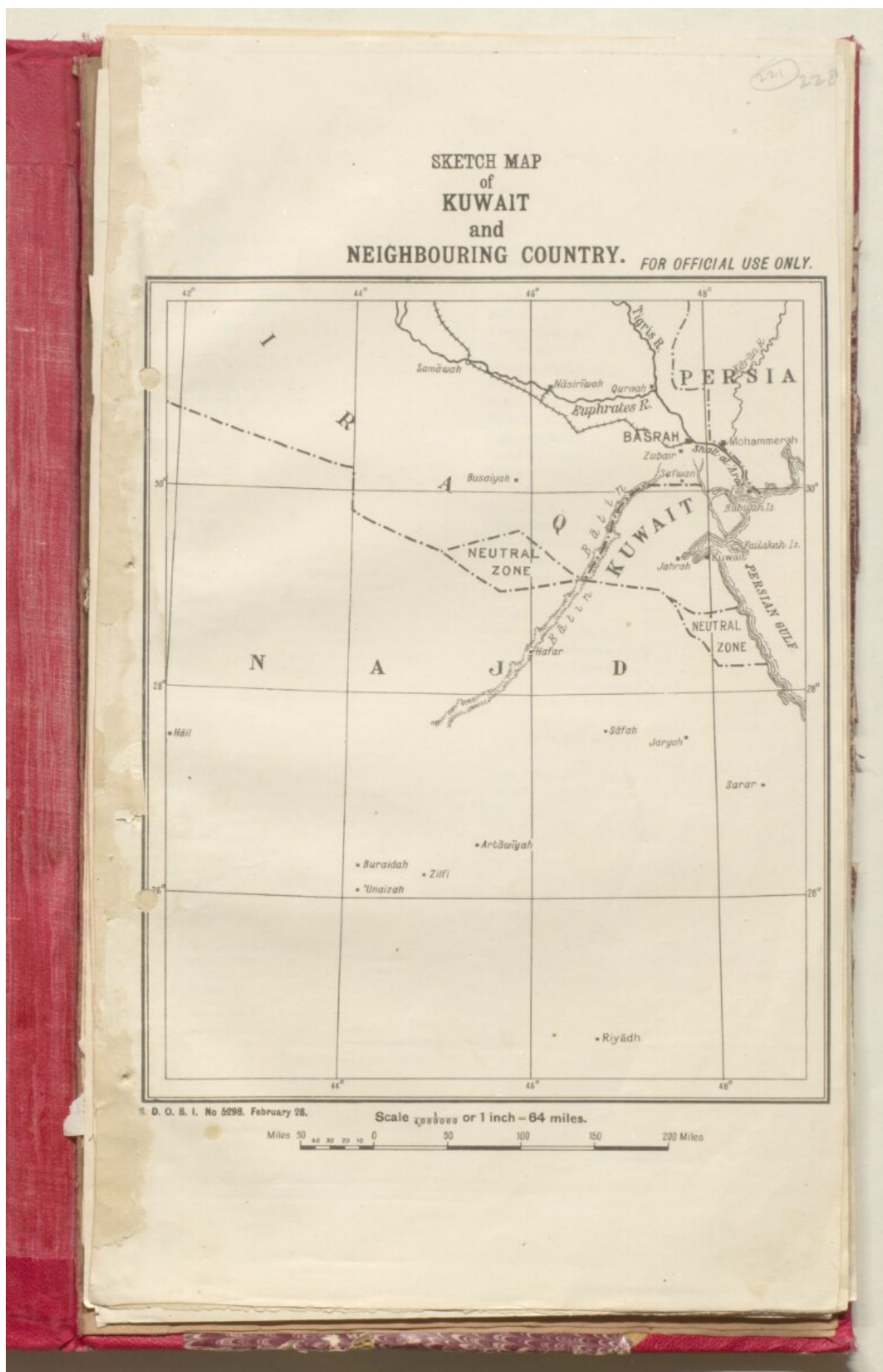
They argued that if as they maintained, the people of 'Iraq, Kuwait, etc., were not true Muslims, they ought to be allowed to fight against them; if, on the other hand, Ibn Sa'ud prohibited this, saying that they were not enemies, he had no right to prevent them from trading with them—as he did in the case of Kuwait.

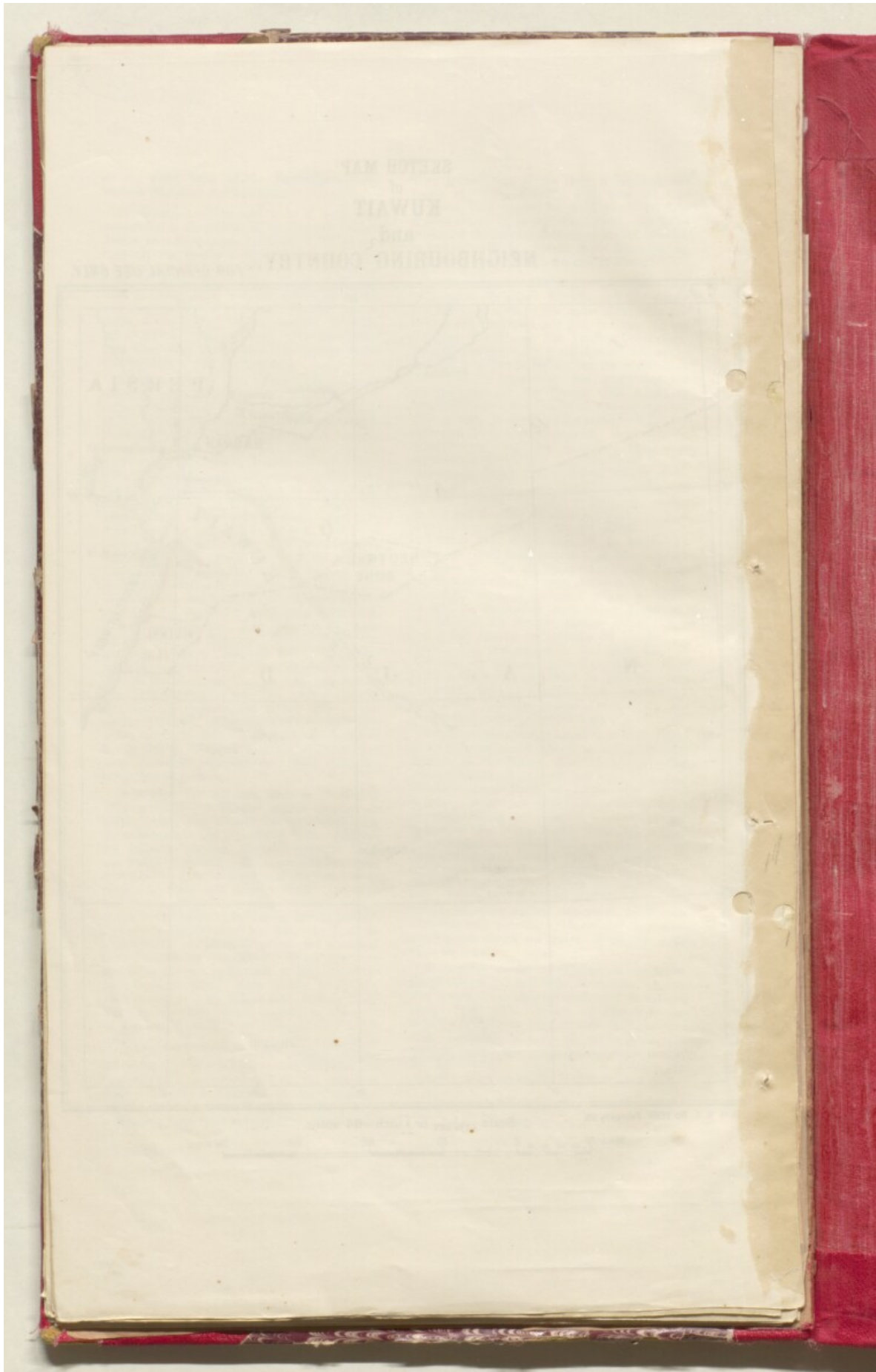
In the summer of 1927 a plot to murder Ibn Sa'ud's son, Sa'ud, in Riyadh, and his cousin Ibn Jiluwi at Hasa, at the same time, was discovered and frustrated only just in time. In the early part of 1927, on the Persian Government refusing permission for the Imperial Airways to establish a service to India along the south coast of Persia, the suggestion was made that the Arabian coast of the Persian Gulf might be followed instead, and Ibn Sa'ud was approached with a view to obtaining his permission for the route over his territory to be used. As was to be expected, the very idea of such a thing was anathema to the Ikhwan, and Ibn Sa'ud on the very strong advice of Ibn Jiluwi said that he could not agree. Next came the building of a Police Post at Baswah* or Busaiyah, as we usually call it. The Ikhwan apparently connect it in their minds with the Air Route scheme, and think that it is destined to become an enormous petrol dump—hence their determination to destroy it. The Air Route scheme and Busaiyah Post between them certainly seem to be the immediate causes, or, perhaps it would be better to say, the immediate excuses, of Faisal ad-Dawish and his Mutair getting out of hand, and going raiding in defiance of Ibn Sa'ud's orders. The real reason is that they, like all Bedouins, are parasites who do not earn their living in the world, and must be paid, or raid. The actual attack on Busaiyah Post, the raid on the Kuwait 'Uraibdar, or local Bedouin, etc., are too recent to require recapitulating.

At present the situation seems to be that Faisal ad-Dawish, as stated above, is acting in open defiance of Ibn Sa'ud. The 'Ajman and other tribes are quiet at present, but are not a very reliable weapon in Ibn Sa'ud's hands. Ibn Sa'ud is certainly in a very awkward position; he is obviously having very strong pressure brought to bear on him, as it is hard to think that a man of his acumen can really think all that he has been writing in his recent letters of protest. It remains to be seen whether he will be able to bring Dawish to heel and re-establish his authority, or not. Personally I think he will do so through the Ulama, whom he has summoned to Riyadh. He has a very persuasive tongue, and they have great influence with the tribes, if he can make them see reason.

Meanwhile, as far as Kuwait is concerned, the people are still in a state of nervous tension. The town wall has been repaired, and is manned every night. The village of Jahrah is also strongly held with a force of over three hundred men, including a body of specially engaged mercenaries, but not counting the Bedouin camped in the vicinity. Many alarmist rumours are current, and accurate news is at a discount.

* File No. 476-N.





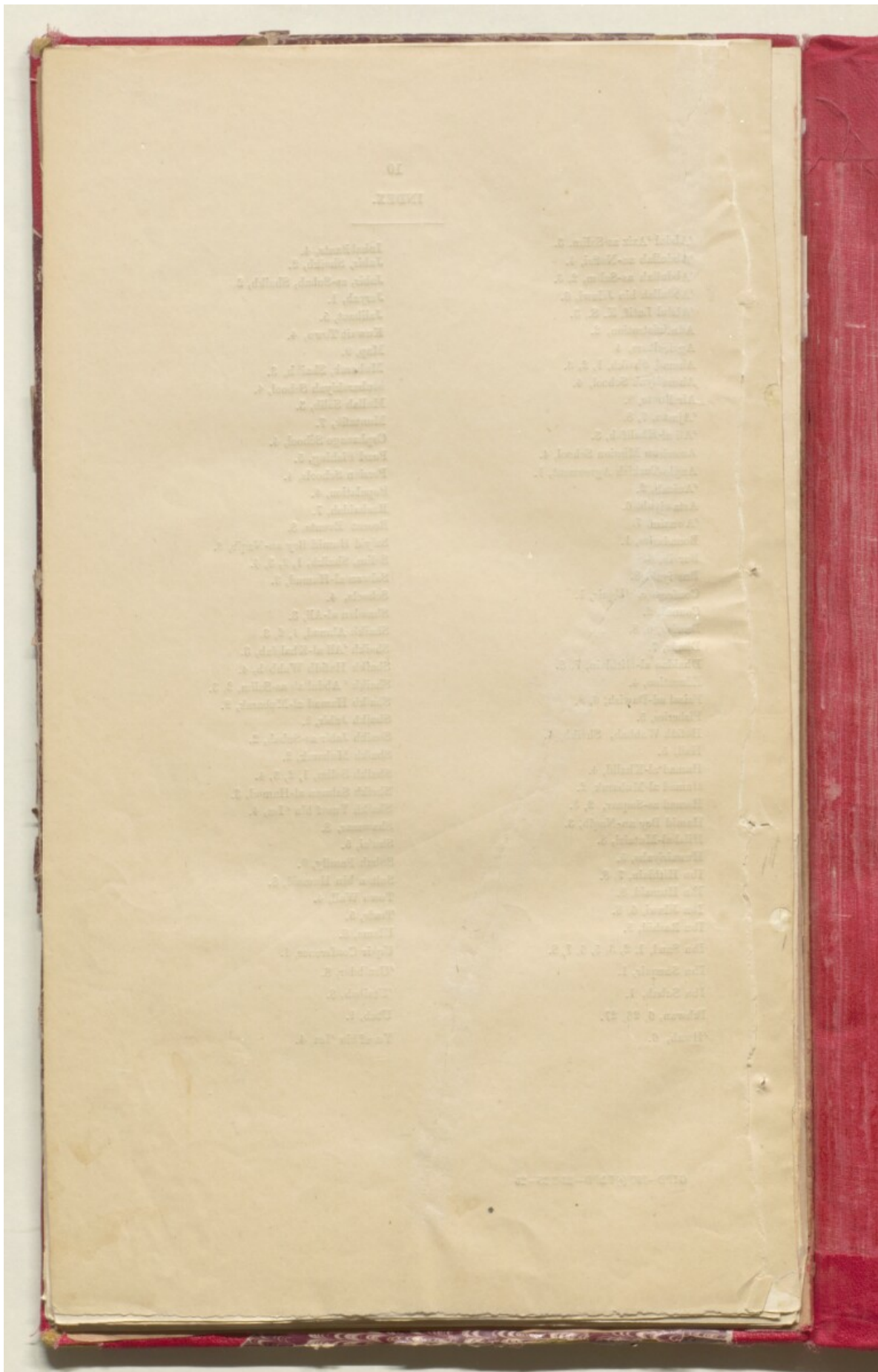


10

INDEX.

- 229- 246
(222)
- 'Abdul 'Aziz as-Salim, 3.
'Abdullah an-Nafisi, 4.
'Abdullah as-Salim, 2, 3.
'Abdullah bin Jiluwi, 6.
'Abdul Latif, K. S., 3.
Administration, 2.
Agriculture, 4.
Ahmad, Shaikh, 1, 2, 3.
Ahmadiyah School, 4.
Air Route, 8.
'Ajman, 7, 8.
'Ali al-Khalifah, 3.
American Mission School, 4.
Anglo-Turkish Agreement, 1.
'Anizah, 2.
Artawiyah, 6.
'Awazin, 7.
Boundaries, 1.
Buraib, 6.
Busaiyah, 8.
Conference, 'Uqair, 1.
Council, 2.
Dawish, 6, 8.
Dhafir, 7.
Dhaidan al-Hithlain, 7, 8.
Education, 4.
Faisal ad-Dawish, 6, 8.
Fisheries, 5.
Hafidh Wabbah, Shaikh, 4.
Hail, 5.
Hamad al-Khalid, 4.
Hamad al-Mubarak, 2.
Hamad as-Saqaar, 2, 3.
Hamid Bey an-Naqib, 3.
Hilal al-Mutairi, 3.
Huwaitiyahs, 5.
Ibn Hithlain, 7, 8.
Ibn Humaid, 8.
Ibn Jiluwi, 6, 8.
Ibn Rashid, 5.
Ibn Saud, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8.
Ibn Shuqair, 1.
Ibn Sabah, 1.
Ikhwan, 6, 26, 27.
'Ilwah, 6.
Inhabitants, 4.
Jabir, Shaikh, 2.
Jabir, as-Subah, Shaikh, 2.
Jaryah, 1.
Jalibaut, 5.
Kuwait Town, 4.
Map, 9.
Mubarak, Shaikh, 3.
Mubarakiyah School, 4.
Mullah Salih, 3.
Muntafik, 7.
Orphanage School, 4.
Pearl Fishing, 5.
Persian Schools, 4.
Population, 4.
Rashaidah, 7.
Recent Events, 8.
Saiyid Hamid Bey an-Naqib, 3.
Salim, Shaikh, 1, 2, 3, 4.
Salman al-Hamud, 3.
Schools, 4.
Shamlan al-Ali, 3.
Shaikh Ahmad, 1, 2, 3.
Shaikh 'Ali al-Khalifah, 3.
Shaikh Hafidh Wabbah, 4.
Shaikh 'Abdullah as-Salim, 2, 3.
Shaikh Hamad al-Mubarak, 2.
Shaikh Jabir, 2.
Shaikh Jabir as-Subah, 2.
Shaikh Mubarak, 2.
Shaikh Salim, 1, 2, 3, 4.
Sheikh Salman al-Hamud, 3.
Shaikh Yusuf bin 'Isa, 4.
Shammar, 8.
Shu'ai, 5.
Subah Family, 2.
Sultan bin Humaid, 8.
Town Wall, 4.
Trade, 5.
Ulama, 8.
Uqair Conference, 1.
'Uraibdar, 8.
'Utaitah, 8.
Utub, 1.
Yusuf bin 'Isa, 4.

GIPD-390 (c) F&PD-23-2-28-26



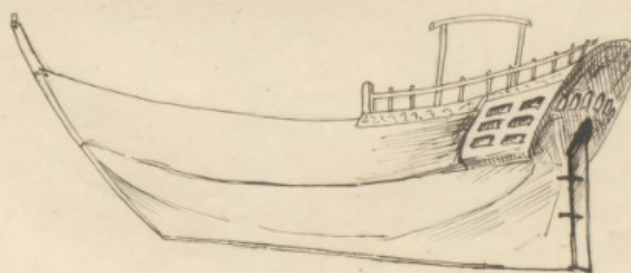


(13)

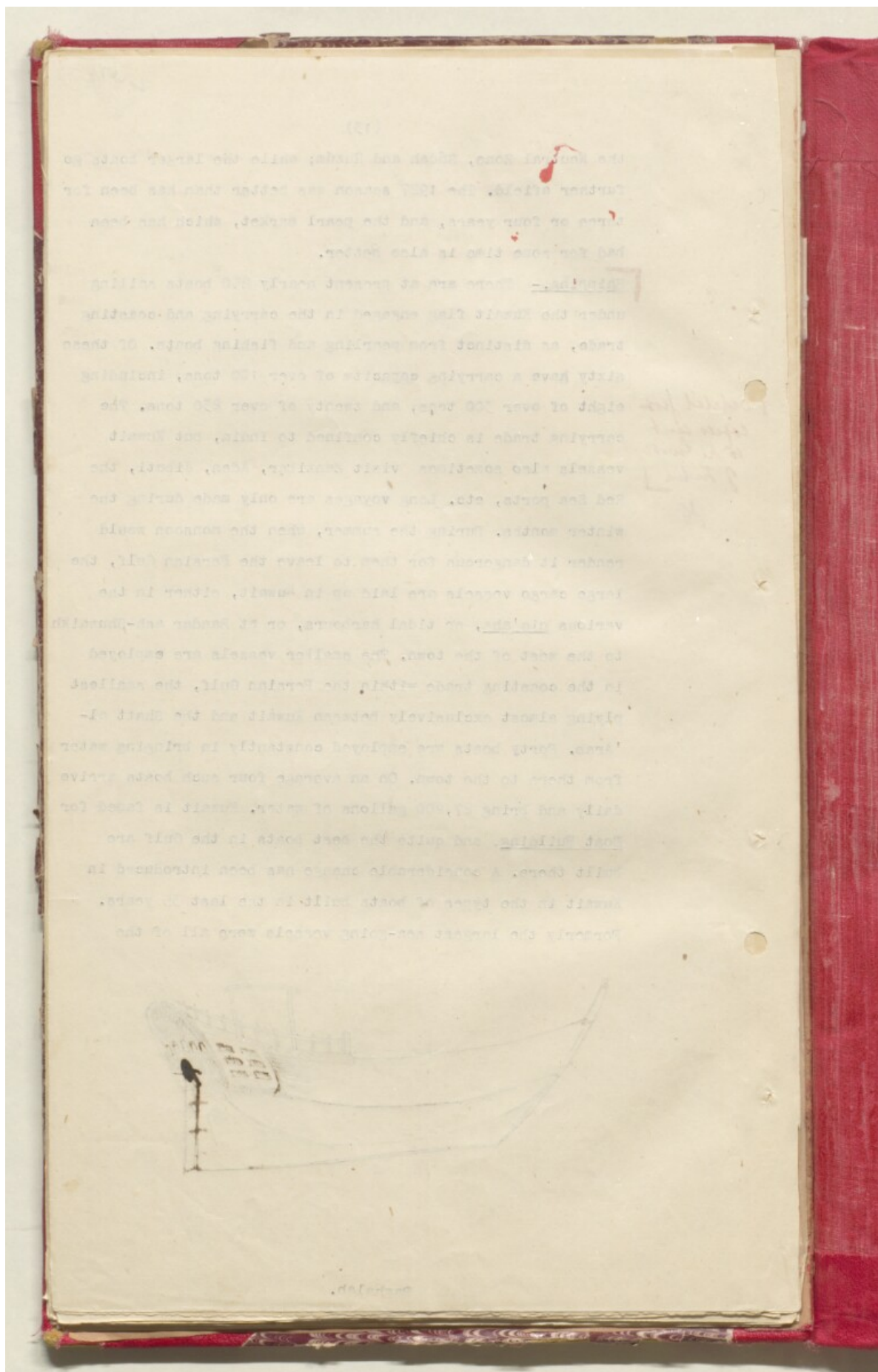
the Neutral Zone, Súdah and Huzúm; while the larger boats go further afield. The 1927 season was better than has been for three or four years, and the pearl market, which has been bad for some time is also better.

Shipping.— There are at present nearly 250 boats sailing under the Kuwait flag engaged in the carrying and coasting trade, as distinct from pearling and fishing boats. Of these sixty have a carrying capacity of over 100 tons, including eight of over 300 tons, and twenty of over 250 tons. The carrying trade is chiefly confined to India, but Kuwait vessels also sometimes visit Zanzibar, Aden, Jibuti, the Red Sea ports, etc. Long voyages are only made during the winter months. During the summer, when the monsoon would render it dangerous for them to leave the Persian Gulf, the large cargo vessels are laid up in Kuwait, either in the various nig'ahs, or tidal harbours, or at Bandar ash-Shuwaikh to the west of the town. The smaller vessels are employed in the coasting trade within the Persian Gulf, the smallest plying almost exclusively between Kuwait and the Shatt al-'Arab. Forty boats are employed constantly in bringing water from there to the town. On an average four such boats arrive daily and bring 27,200 gallons of water. Kuwait is famed for Boat Building, and quite the best boats in the Gulf are built there. A considerable change has been introduced in Kuwait in the types of boats built in the last 35 years. Formerly the largest sea-going vessels were all of the

*Deleted from
copies sent
to the Govt.
of India
Jc.*



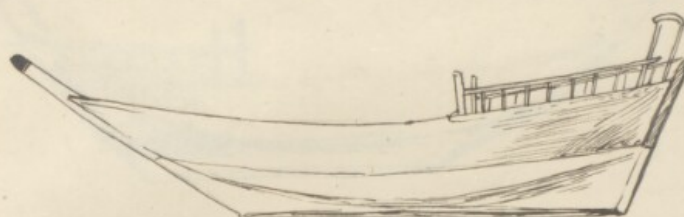
Baghalah.





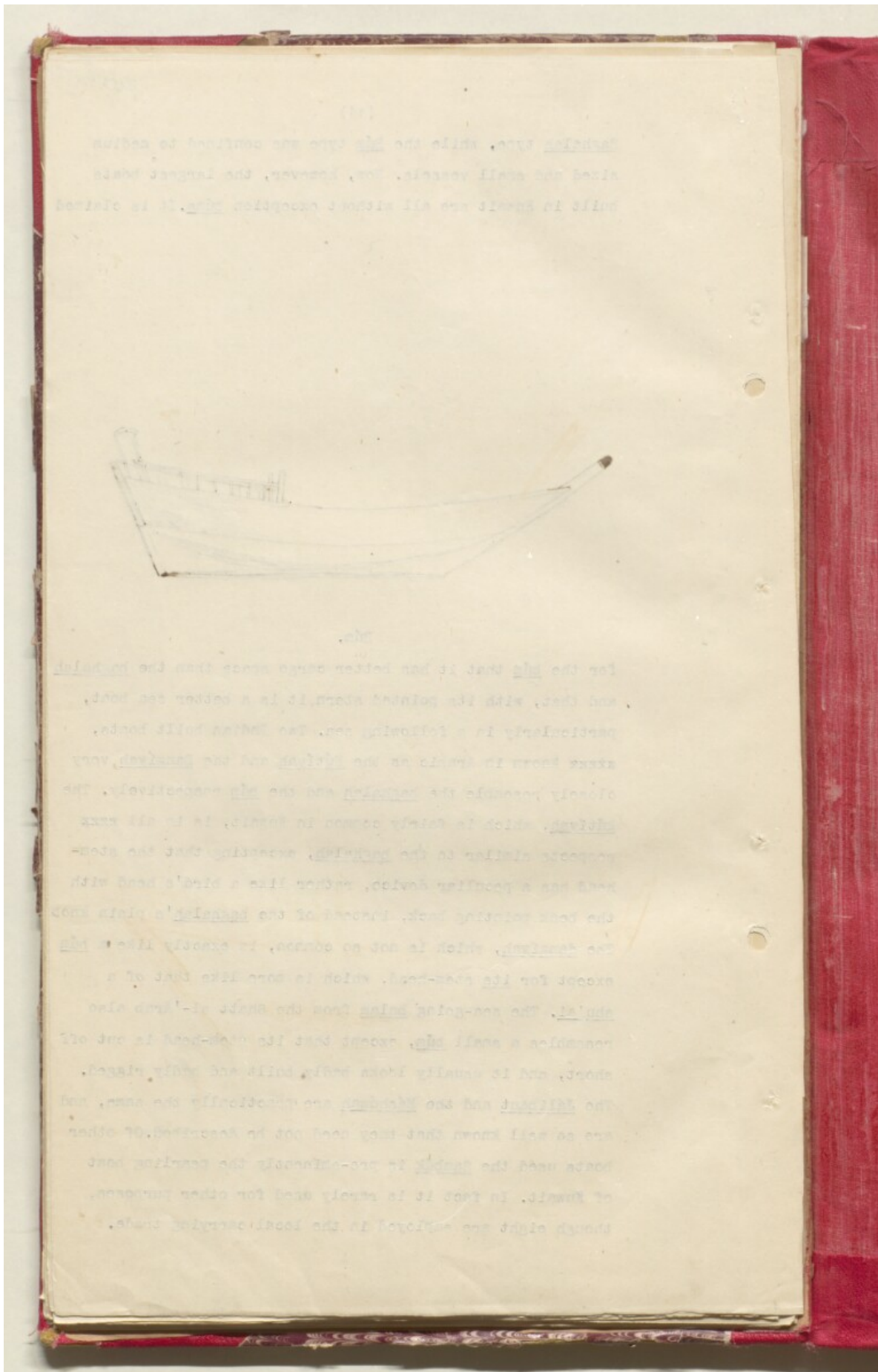
(14)

Baghalah type, while the Búm type was confined to medium sized and small vessels. Now, however, the largest boats built in Kuwait are all without exception búmg. It is claimed



Búm.

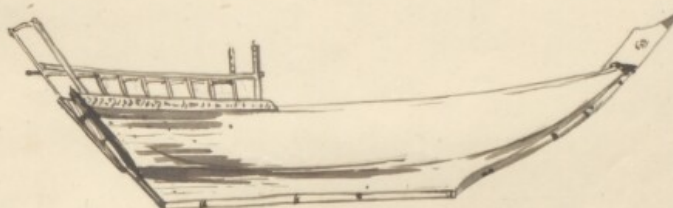
for the búm that it has better cargo space than the baghalah and that, with its pointed stern, it is a better sea boat, particularly in a following sea. Two Indian built boats, ~~xxxx~~ known in Arabic as the Kútíyah and the Dangíyah, very closely resemble the baghalah and the búm respectively. The kútíyah, which is fairly common in Kuwait, is in all ~~xxxx~~ respects similar to the baghalah, excepting that the stem-head has a peculiar device, rather like a bird's head with the beak pointing back, instead of the baghalah's plain knob. The dangíyah, which is not so common, is exactly like a búm except for its stem-head, which is more like that of a shu'ai. The sea-going balam from the Shatt al-'Arab also resembles a small búm, except that its stem-head is out off short, and it usually looks badly built and badly rigged. The Jálibaut and the Máshúwah are practically the same, and are so well known that they need not be described. Of other boats used the Sambúk is pre-eminently the pearling boat of Kuwait. In fact it is rarely used for other purposes, though eight are employed in the local carrying trade.





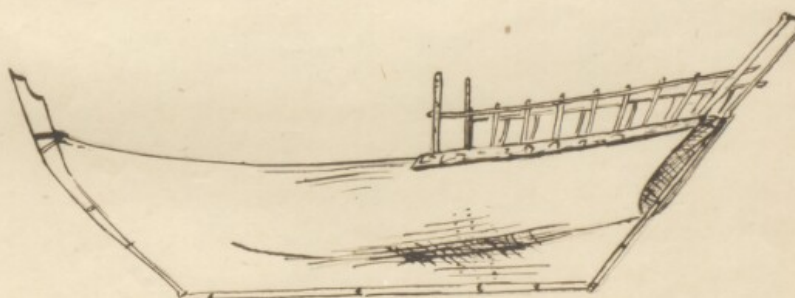
(15)

Its square stern is said to make it more suitable for the frequent turning that is required at the pearl banks than is a boat of the būm type, which is hardly ever seen there except as a dealer's boat.



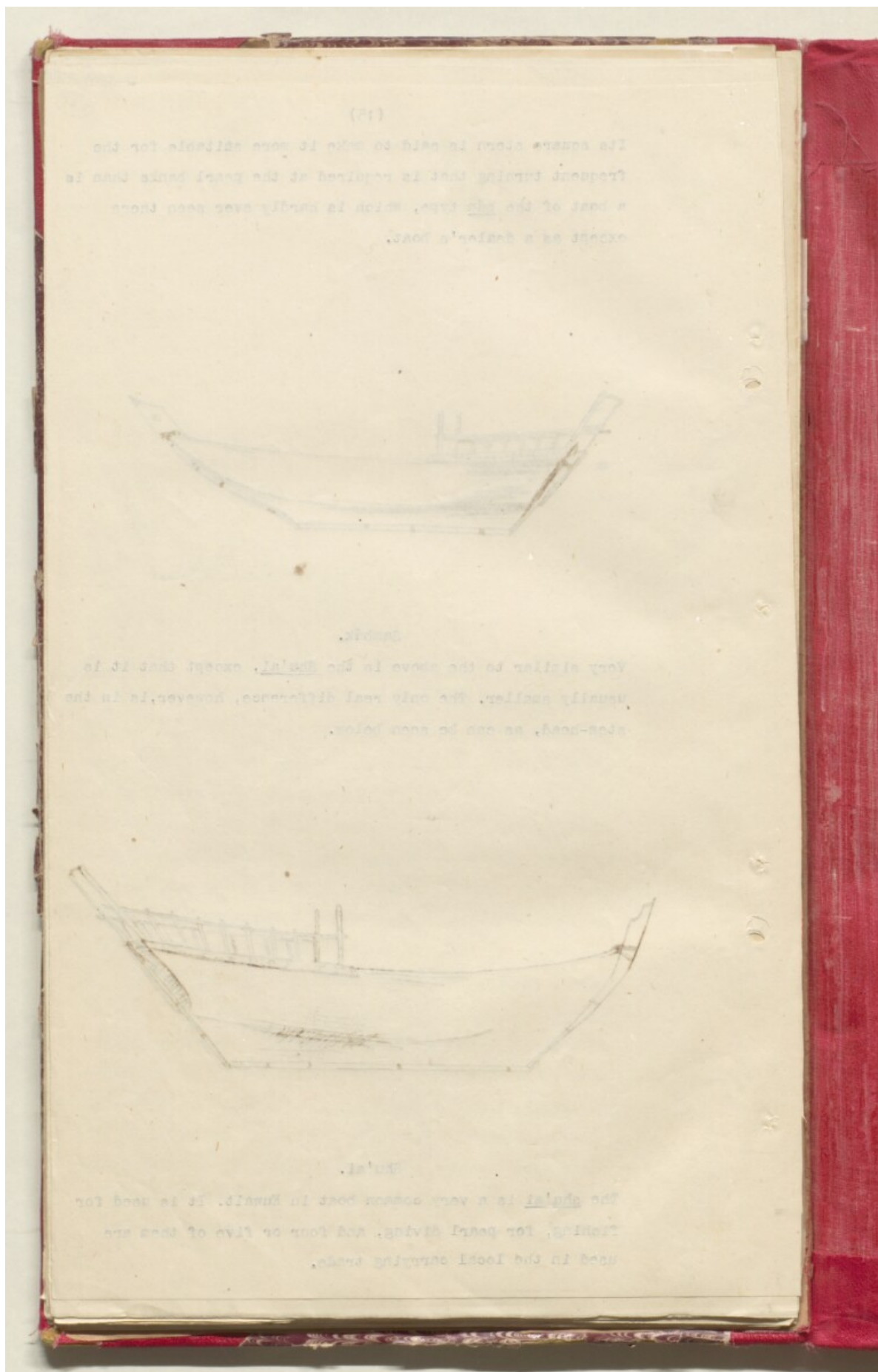
Sambūk.

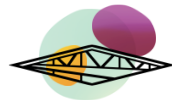
Very similar to the above is the Shu'ai, except that it is usually smaller. The only real difference, however, is in the stem-head, as can be seen below.



Shu'ai.

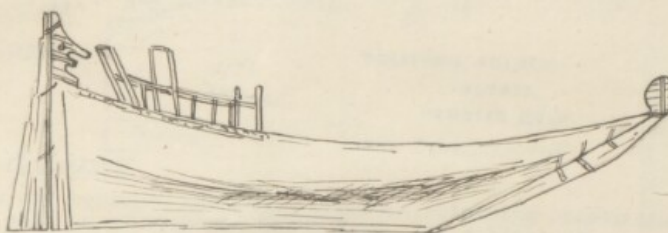
The shu'ai is a very common boat in Kuwait. It is used for fishing, for pearl diving, and four or five of them are used in the local carrying trade.





(16)

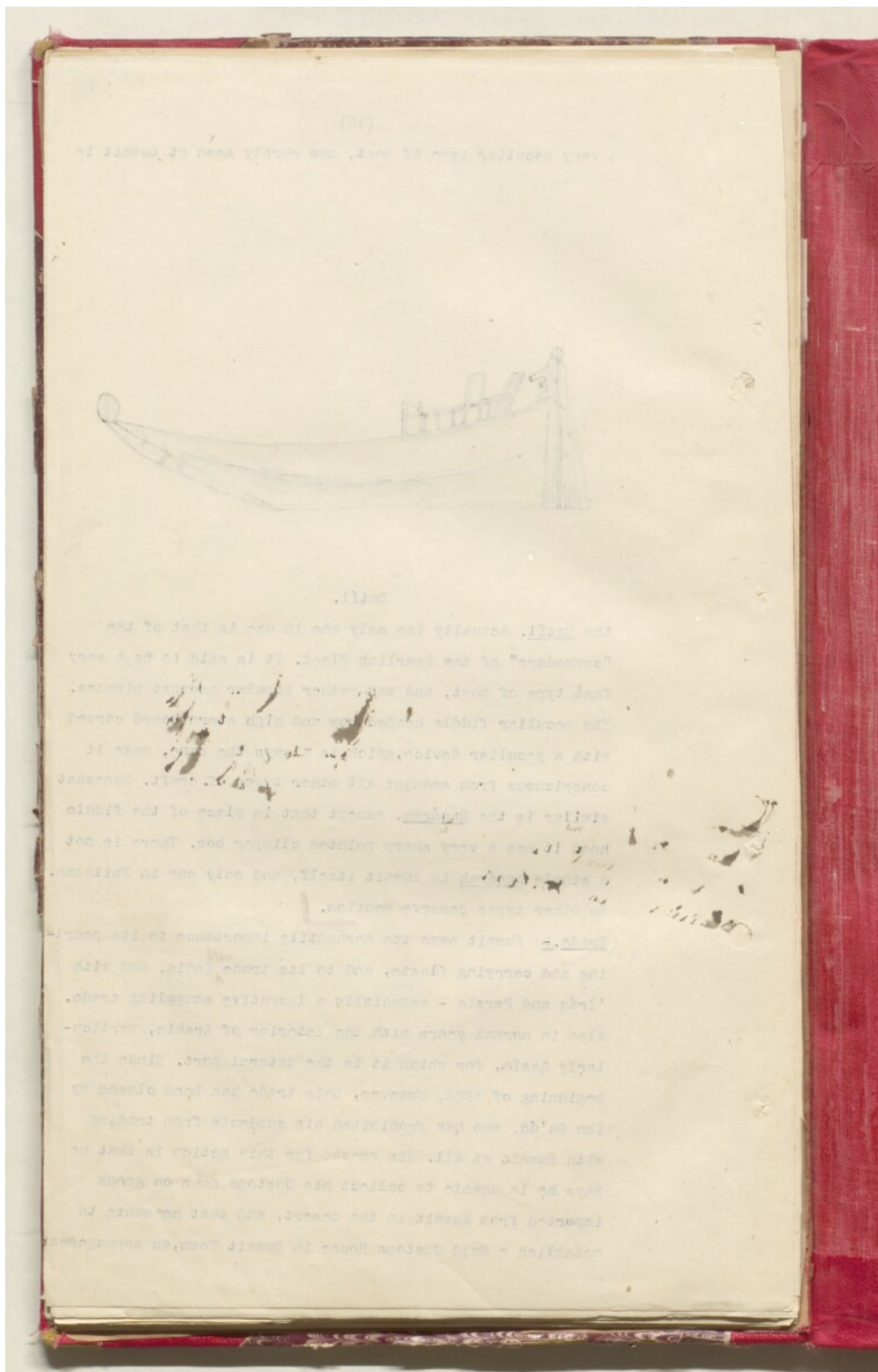
A very peculiar type of boat, now rarely seen at Kuwait is

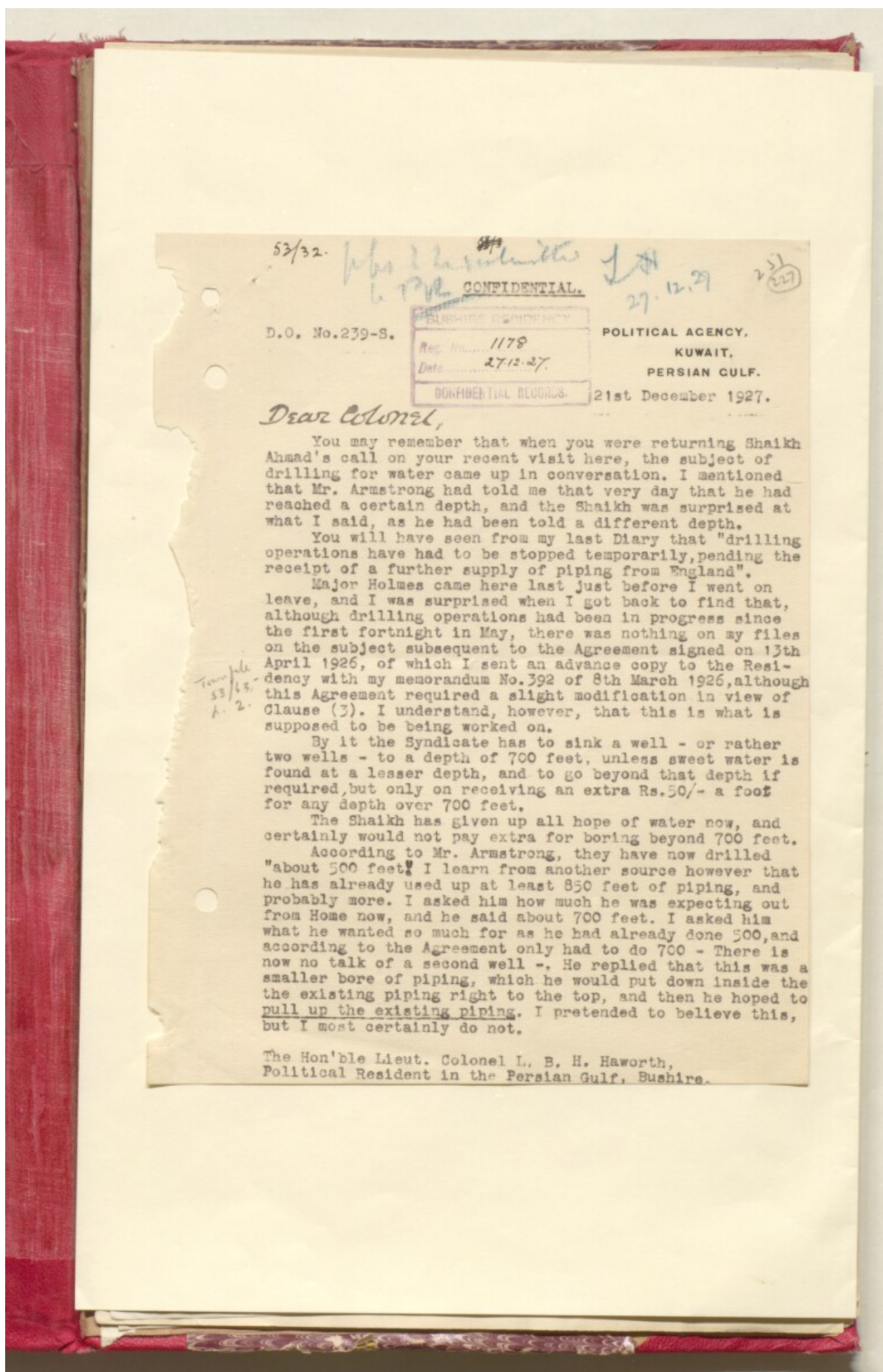


Batfi.

the Batfi. Actually the only one in use is that of the "commodore" of the Pearling Fleet. It is said to be a very fast type of boat, and was rather popular amongst pirates. Its peculiar fiddle headed bow and high stern board carved with a peculiar device, which is always the same, make it conspicuous from amongst all other types of craft. Somewhat similar is the Baqarah, except that in place of the fiddle head it has a very sharp pointed clipper bow. There is not a single baqarah in Kuwait itself, and only one in Failakah. No other types deserve mention.

~~Trade. - Kuwait owes its mercantile importance to its pearling and carrying fleets, and to its trade ^{with} India, and with 'Iraq and Persia - especially a lucrative smuggling trade. Also in normal years with the Interior of Arabia, particularly Qasim, for which it is the natural port. Since the beginning of 1922, however, this trade has been closed by Ibn Sa'ud, who has prohibited his subjects from trading with Kuwait at all. His reason for this action is that he says he is unable to collect his Customs dues on goods imported from Kuwait in the desert, and that he wants to establish a Najd Customs House in Kuwait Town, an arrangement~~





53/32.

CONFIDENTIAL.

D.O. No. 239-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 1178
Date 27.12.27
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

21st December 1927.

Dear Colonel,

You may remember that when you were returning Shaikh Ahmad's call on your recent visit here, the subject of drilling for water came up in conversation. I mentioned that Mr. Armstrong had told me that very day that he had reached a certain depth, and the Shaikh was surprised at what I said, as he had been told a different depth.

You will have seen from my last Diary that "drilling operations have had to be stopped temporarily, pending the receipt of a further supply of piping from England".

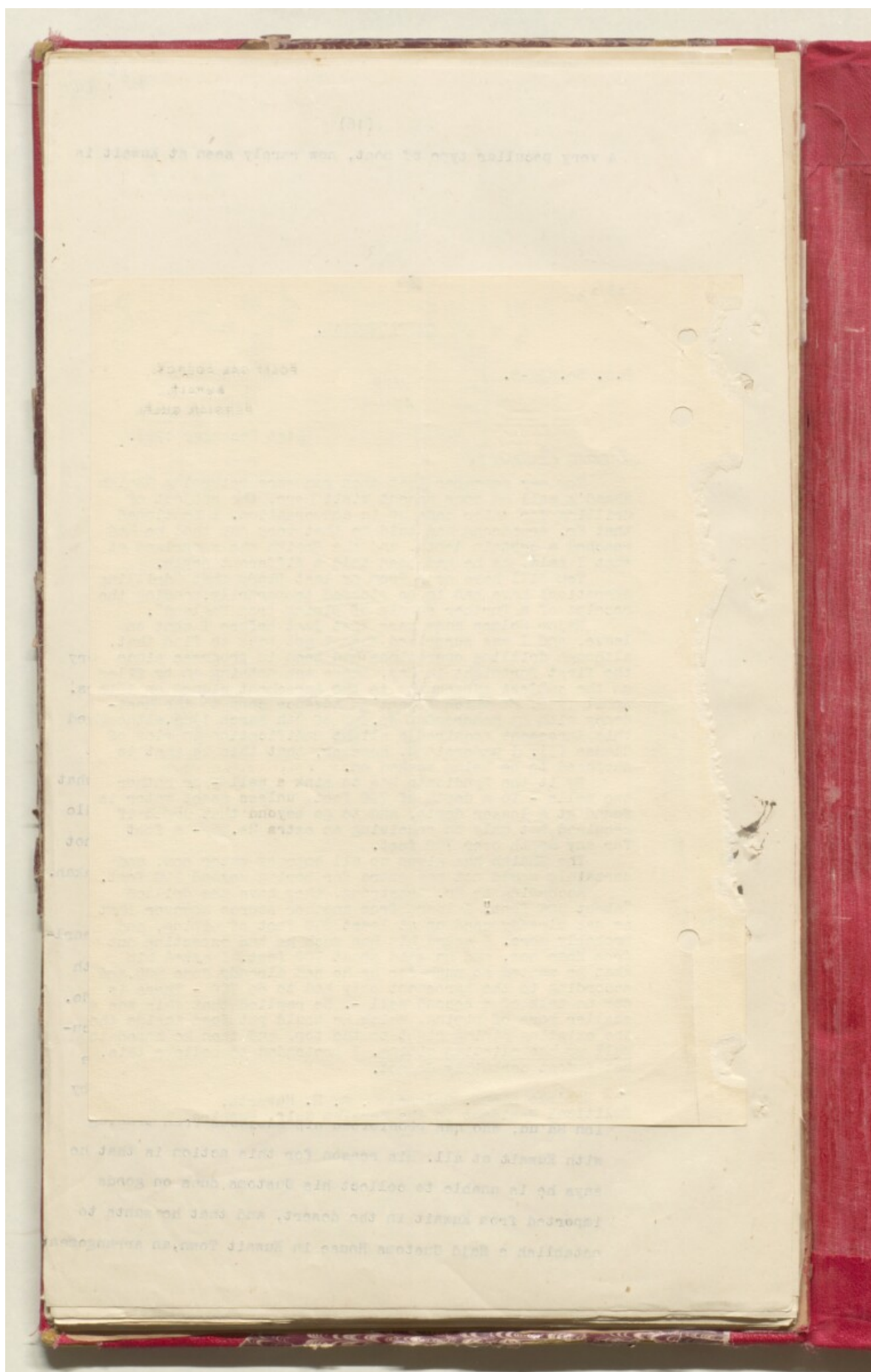
Major Holmes came here last just before I went on leave, and I was surprised when I got back to find that, although drilling operations had been in progress since the first fortnight in May, there was nothing on my files on the subject subsequent to the Agreement signed on 13th April 1926, of which I sent an advance copy to the Residency with my memorandum No. 392 of 8th March 1926, although this Agreement required a slight modification in view of Clause (3). I understand, however, that this is what is supposed to be being worked on.

By it the Syndicate has to sink a well - or rather two wells - to a depth of 700 feet, unless sweet water is found at a lesser depth, and to go beyond that depth if required, but only on receiving an extra Rs. 50/- a foot for any depth over 700 feet.

The Shaikh has given up all hope of water now, and certainly would not pay extra for boring beyond 700 feet.

According to Mr. Armstrong, they have now drilled "about 500 feet". I learn from another source however that he has already used up at least 850 feet of piping, and probably more. I asked him how much he was expecting out from Home now, and he said about 700 feet. I asked him what he wanted so much for as he had already done 500, and according to the Agreement only had to do 700 - There is now no talk of a second well -. He replied that this was a smaller bore of piping, which he would put down inside the existing piping right to the top, and then he hoped to pull up the existing piping. I pretended to believe this, but I most certainly do not.

The Hon'ble Lieut. Colonel L. B. H. Haworth,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.





252 (228)
POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

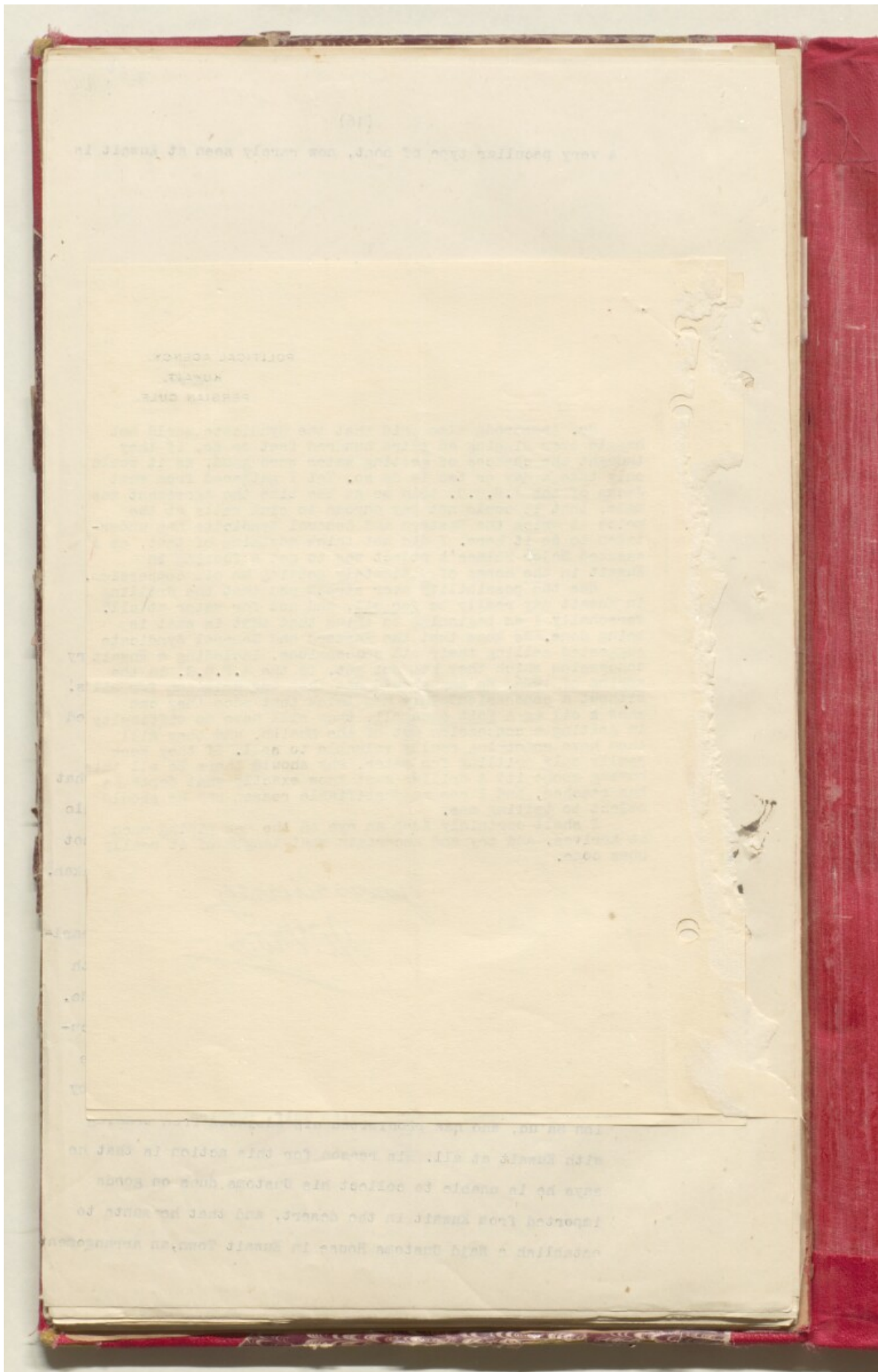
Mr. Armstrong also said that the Syndicate would not haggle over digging an extra hundred feet or so, if they thought the chances of getting water were good, as it would only take a day or two to do so. Yet I gathered from what Jacks of the A.P.C.G. told me at the time the Agreement was made, that it could not pay anyone to sink wells at the price at which the Eastern and General Syndicate has undertaken to do it here. I did not think anything of that, as I assumed Major Holmes's object was to get a footing in Kuwait in the hopes of ultimately getting an oil concession.

Has the possibility ever struck you that the drilling in Kuwait may really be for oil, and not for water at all? Personally I am beginning to think that that is what is being done. We know that the Eastern and General Syndicate suggested selling their oil concessions, including a Kuwait concession which they had not got, to the A.P.C.G. in the spring of 1926. So why should not they try drilling for oil without a concession? They may think that once they can show a oil as a fait accompli, they will have no difficulty in getting a concession out of the Shaikh, and they will then have something really valuable to sell. If they were really only drilling for water, why should there be all this humbug about it? A driller must know exactly what depth he has reached, and I see no justifiable reason why he should object to telling one.

I shall certainly keep an eye on the new piping when it arrives, and try and ascertain what length of it really does come.

*file 86/1, p. 42.

yours sincerely
J.C. Moore





53/32.

Kuwait d.o. 239-S, d. 21.12.22

Eastern & Gent. Syndicate drilling
for water at Kuwait

A copy of the agreement
referred to is at p. 2. of file
53/63.

Under clause (1) of the
Agreement, the Company has
to drill beyond 700 feet if
required, but only on receiving
Rs 50/- from the Shaikh per
foot beyond that depth.
Major Rose says that the
Shaikh does not intend to pay
when for boring beyond 700 ft.

file 86/2
p. 39.

It must be remembered that
the Syndicate tried unsuccess-
fully in March 1926 to
obtain an oil concession from
the Shaikh.

Clause 3

It may be that they are
drilling for oil now, but this
is only a suspicion. They
have kept to the terms of their
agreement, the choice of sites
within the prescribed area has
been left to them and it cannot
be proved that they have not
drilled for water at all.

The Shaikh can presumably
forbid them to go beyond 700 feet.

If they are willing to drill
at their own expense beyond
700



Too fast he should have to
lose only if the results are
absolutely negative. If
water is struck the profit is
wholly his; if oil is struck
it is much the same as he has
not yet given an oil concession
to the Syndicate or anyone else.
If nothing is struck the market
value of an oil concession is
spoiled but he can prevent
this by forbidding them to
drill beyond 1000 feet or so,
if they are willing to bore
further at their own expense.

R 13/

Dec

P.R.

I spoke to Major Mac
about this & he is keeping
his eyes open.

The fact that the Company
made this suggestion with
regard to Messrs. O'Brien
& Walsby & Bahrain suggests
that the idea is not absent
from their minds.

The danger is that before
oil they may go through a
water area & then drain it is
a possibility & this really
has a great drawback
in that if the other had oil it
would be worth the while to
7.2.20



53/32

254 (230)

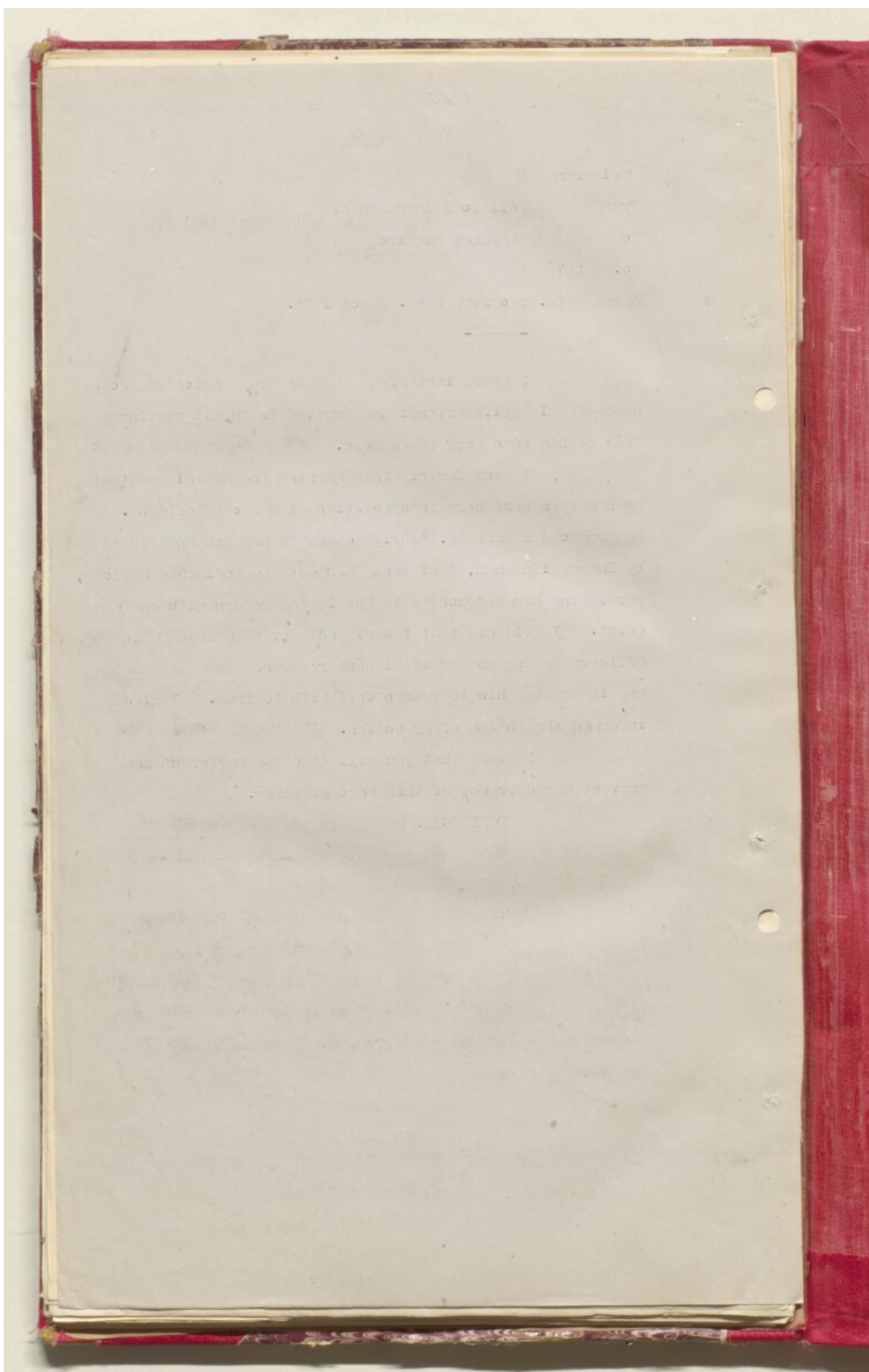
Telegram P
From Political Agent Kuwait
To Resident Bushire
No. 297
Dated 30th. received 31st. March 1928.

I heard last night that an Iraq Police Inspector named Abdul Mutlib Effendi had arrived in Kuwait stating that he had some work to do here.

I sent for him this morning and he told me that he had been sent here in connection with a case of debt. He produced a pass No. 613/1/9 dated 27th March and signed by Inayatulla Shah, Assistant Passport and Residence Officer, permitting him to "proceed to Kuwait and return with one man only". I told him that I could not agree to Iraq Police Officers coming to Kuwait without reference to Government and instructed him to return forthwith to Iraq. I also informed the Shaikh of my action.

I trust that you will take the matter up and prevent a recurrence of this sort of thing.

POLITICAL.





131
255
CONFIDENTIAL.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 5th April 1928.

No. 14.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of a telegram addressed to me by the Political Agent at Kuwait on the subject of an Iraq officer having despatched an Iraq Police Inspector to Kuwait to arrest a man there and return with him.

The particular incident has no importance, as such; it is the action of a subordinate officer and will be righted by a demi-official letter to the officer in charge.

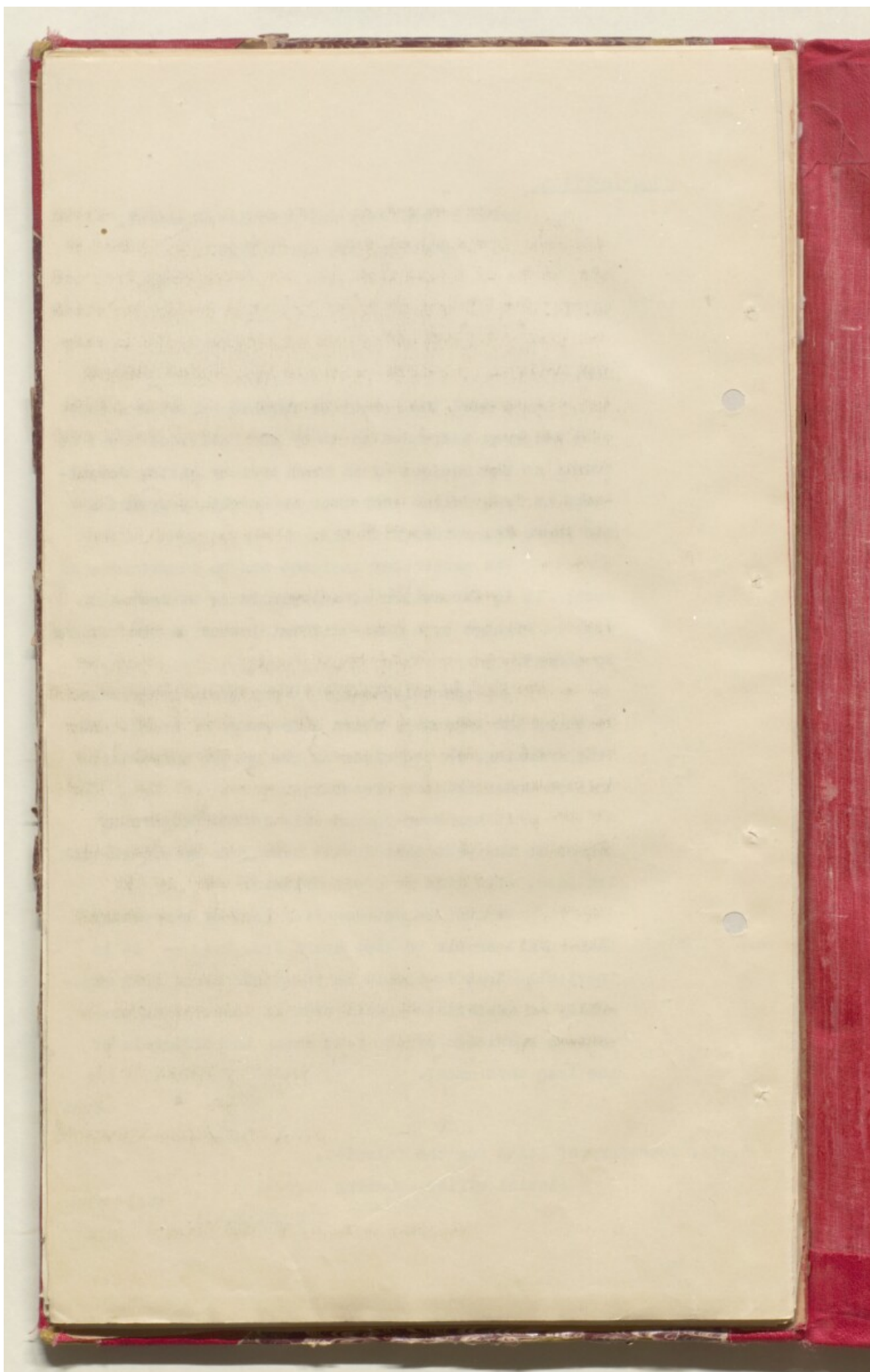
But psychologically it has great importance. It shows the tendency, which I foresaw, of Kuwait and Iraq becoming, in the minds of the native community, unified under British protection.

It has been common talk in the bazaars of Basrah in the past that Kuwait must join up either with Ibn Saud, with Iraq or Great Britain.

It must be an essential part of our policy that Kuwait should be kept apart from Iraq — it is inevitable that it should be the tendency of Iraq gradually to assimilate Kuwait even if there is no conscious knowledge of the fact among the officials of the Iraq Government.

Such

H.E.'s. Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office, Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.





2

Such tendencies result not from direct action but from psychological factors, from the dependence of the Shaikh of Kuwait upon Iraq for assistance, from the appointment of Iraq officers to Kuwait during the raids and from the common interests of peoples alike in race and religion, dependent upon the same market centres and in constant daily communication. It is indeed perhaps the natural development that Kuwait should draw close to Iraq while we are there but we do not desire her to get so close that with the development of time she will be left there when we leave in spite of our wishes.

Hence the last paragraph in my telegram No. 7, dated 11th February 1928, to your address (repeated to the Government of India under No. 137). It is for us to see that where avoidable the psychological factors do not arise, and that where they are natural that they are checked; that such help as Kuwait may require may be obtained by assistance from our Navy and the training of her people — and it would be better that such training should be given from India and not from Iraq.

Kuwait should be trained to look to His Majesty's Government and India alone, not to a country under our mandate.

Copies of this despatch are being sent to the Government of India and to His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq, Baghdad.

(a) Under auth. no. 138-5, d. 5.4.28.
(b) " " " 139-5 " "
To P.A. Kuwait " " " 140-5 " "

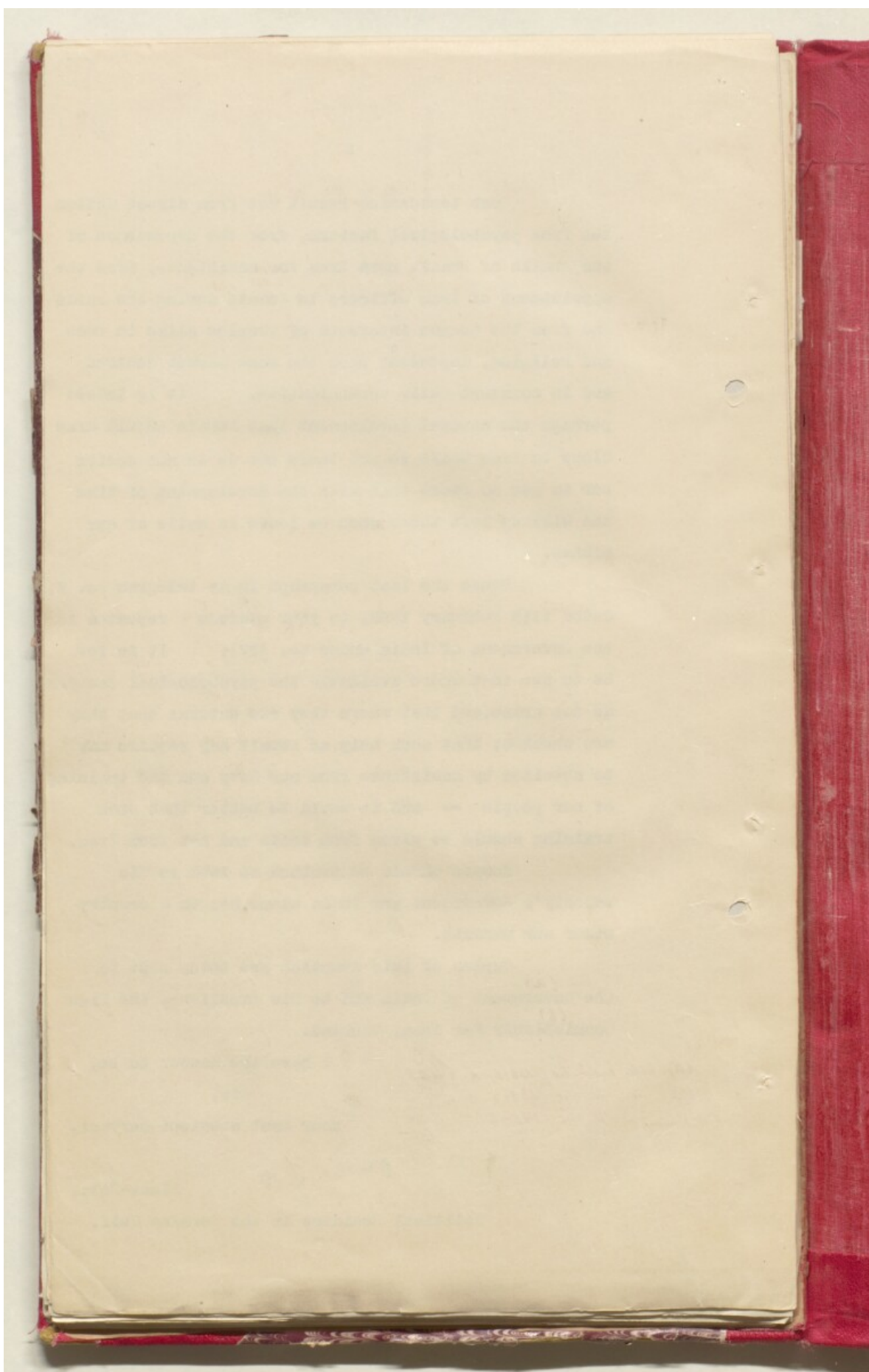
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Lieut-Col.,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





53/32

233

259

BUSINESS RESIDENCY

Reg. No. 512

Date 14.5.28

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

Confidential.

No.S.O. 1088

The Residency,
Baghdad, dated 4th May, 1928.

5
14.5.

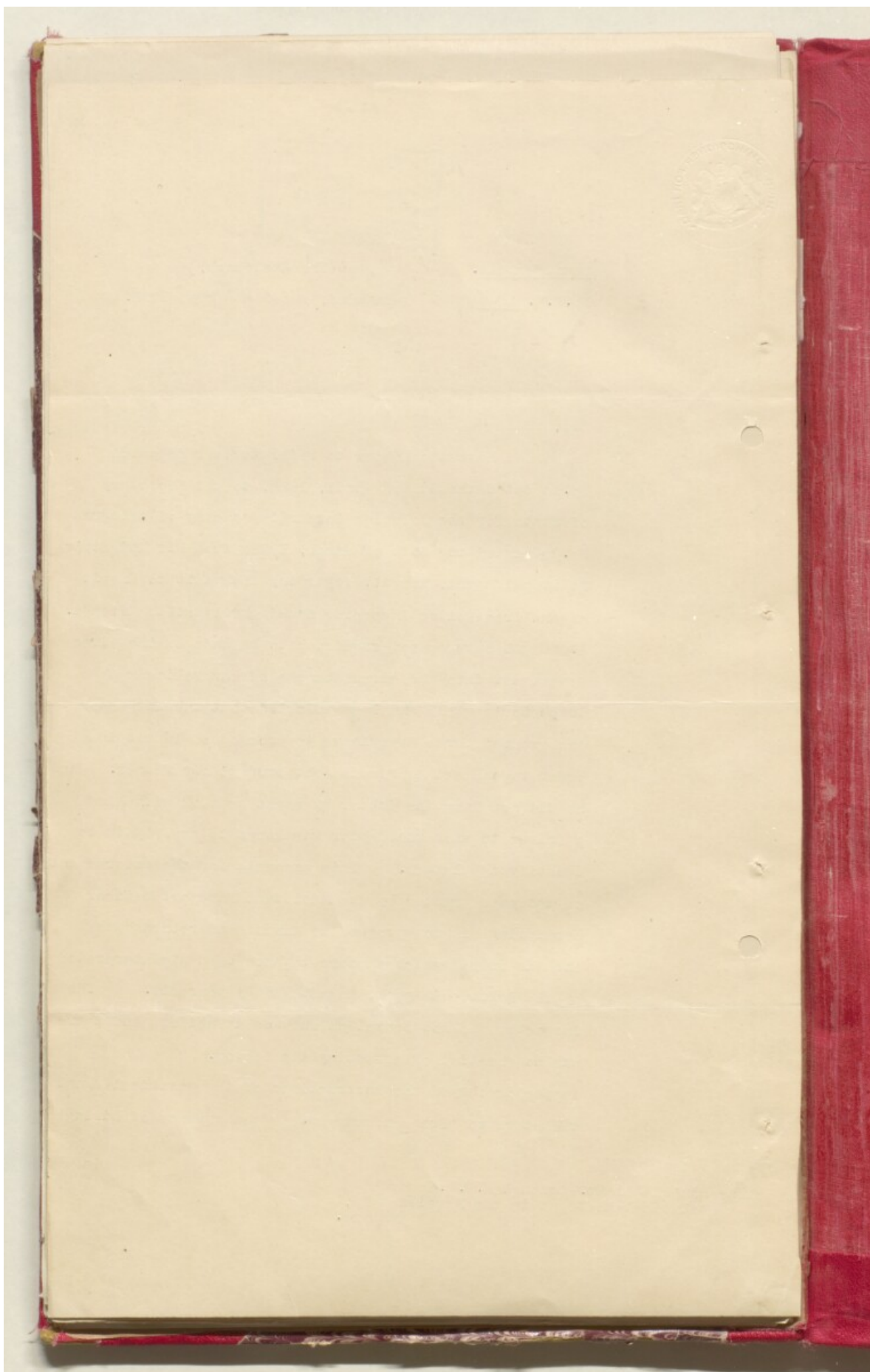
Sir, *Sup. Q.*

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No.14 dated the 5th of April, 1928, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies forwarding a copy of telegram No.297 dated the 30th of March, 1928, from His Majesty's Political Agent, Kuwait, regarding the visit to Kuwait of an 'Iraq Police Inspector named Abdul Mutlib Effendi.

2. I have caused enquiries to be made of the 'Iraq Government into the circumstances of the Police Inspector's visit and I am informed that the Inspector was granted three days leave to proceed to Kuwait in order to collect a private debt owed to his father. As he did not know the debtor by sight he took with him a friend to whom the debtor was known to assist him to identify the latter. This accounts for the endorsement on the pass granted by the Assistant Passport Officer permitting him to "proceed to Kuwait and return with one man only", which appears to have been misinterpreted by the Political Agent, Kuwait and by yourself. The Inspector did not travel on duty or in uniform and there was no question of arresting the debtor. The Inspector obeyed the instructions of the Political Agent to return to 'Iraq and was put to the expense of hiring

a

The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel L.B.H.Haworth,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
Bushire.





-2-

a special car to take him to Basrah.

3. It would therefore appear that there has been a misunderstanding and that the circumstances were not such as you were led to suppose.

4. It is true however that an irregularity of a comparatively minor nature occurred in that the Police Inspector was not in possession of a proper passport. I am informed that it has been the practice to grant Government officials wishing to proceed to Kuwait on short visits temporary passes instead of regular passports. Although no objection appears to have been raised hitherto by the Kuwait authorities, instructions have now been issued that this practice must cease.

5. I am sending copies of this despatch to the Secretary of State and to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

I have the honour to be,

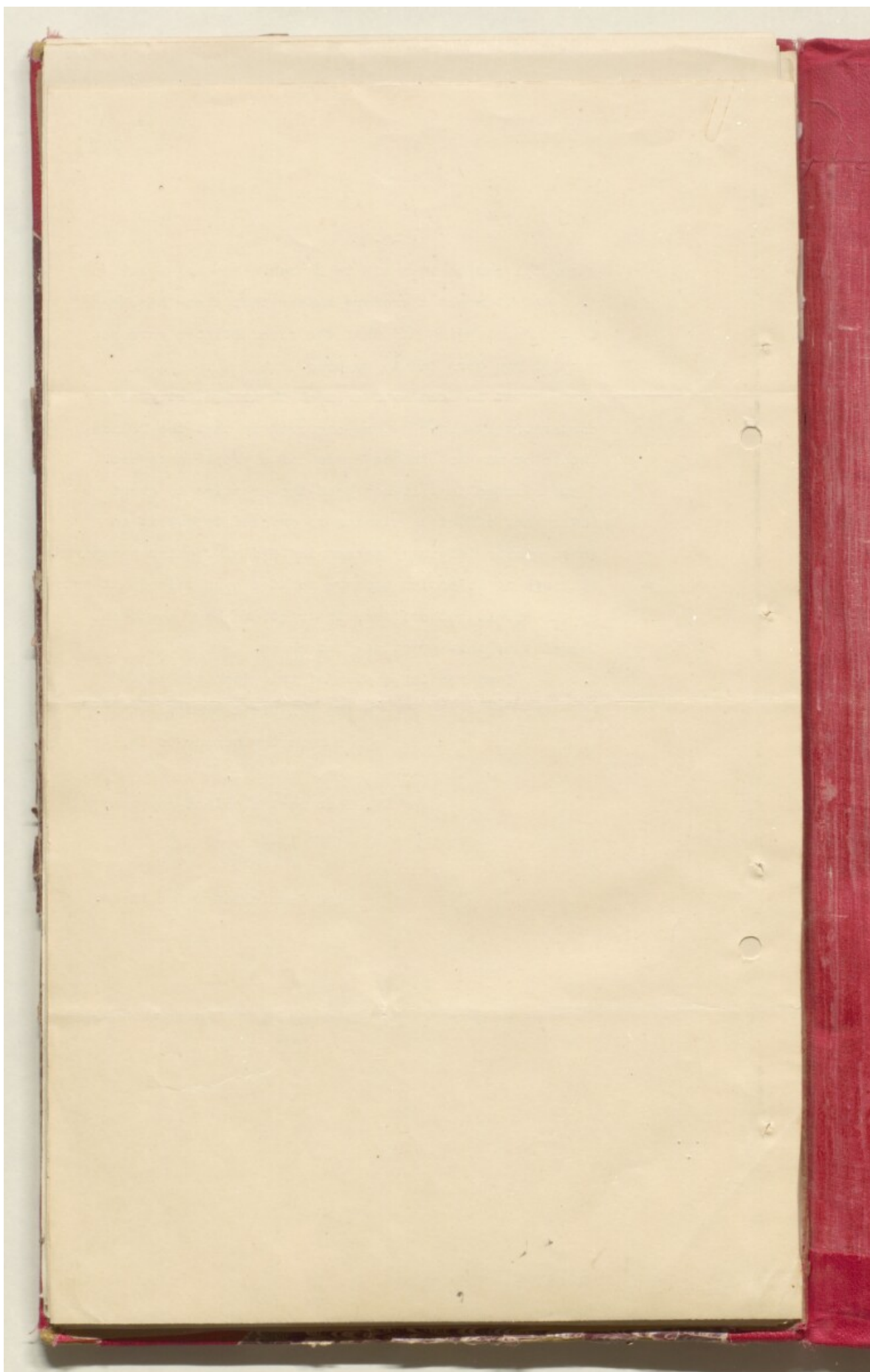
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. J. Jones

High Commissioner for 'Iraq.

M.I.
3.





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 352-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
12th May 1928.

523
Reg. No. 15.5.28.
Date
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

'Iraq Police Inspector's visit to Kuwait.

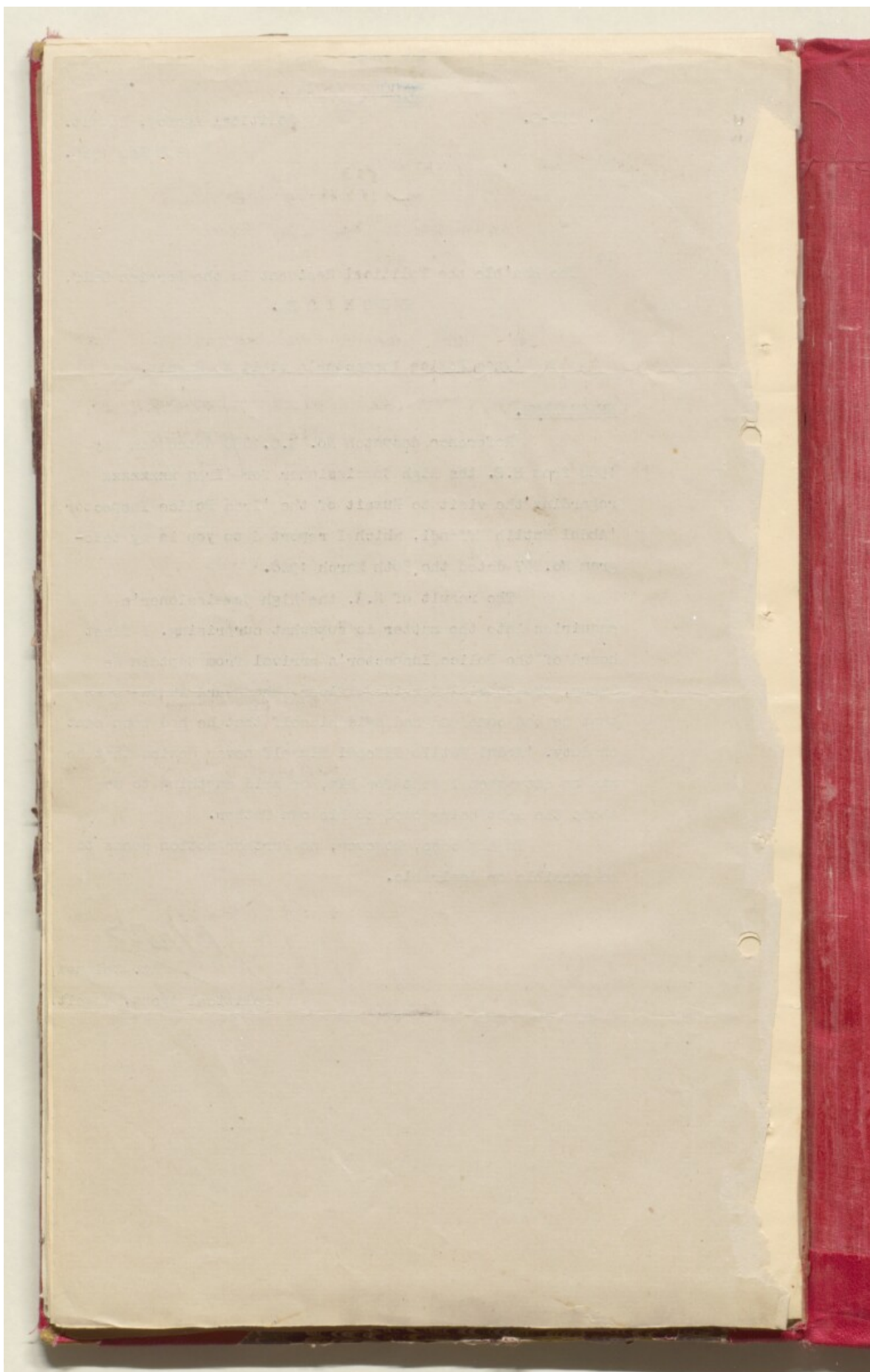
MEMORANDUM.

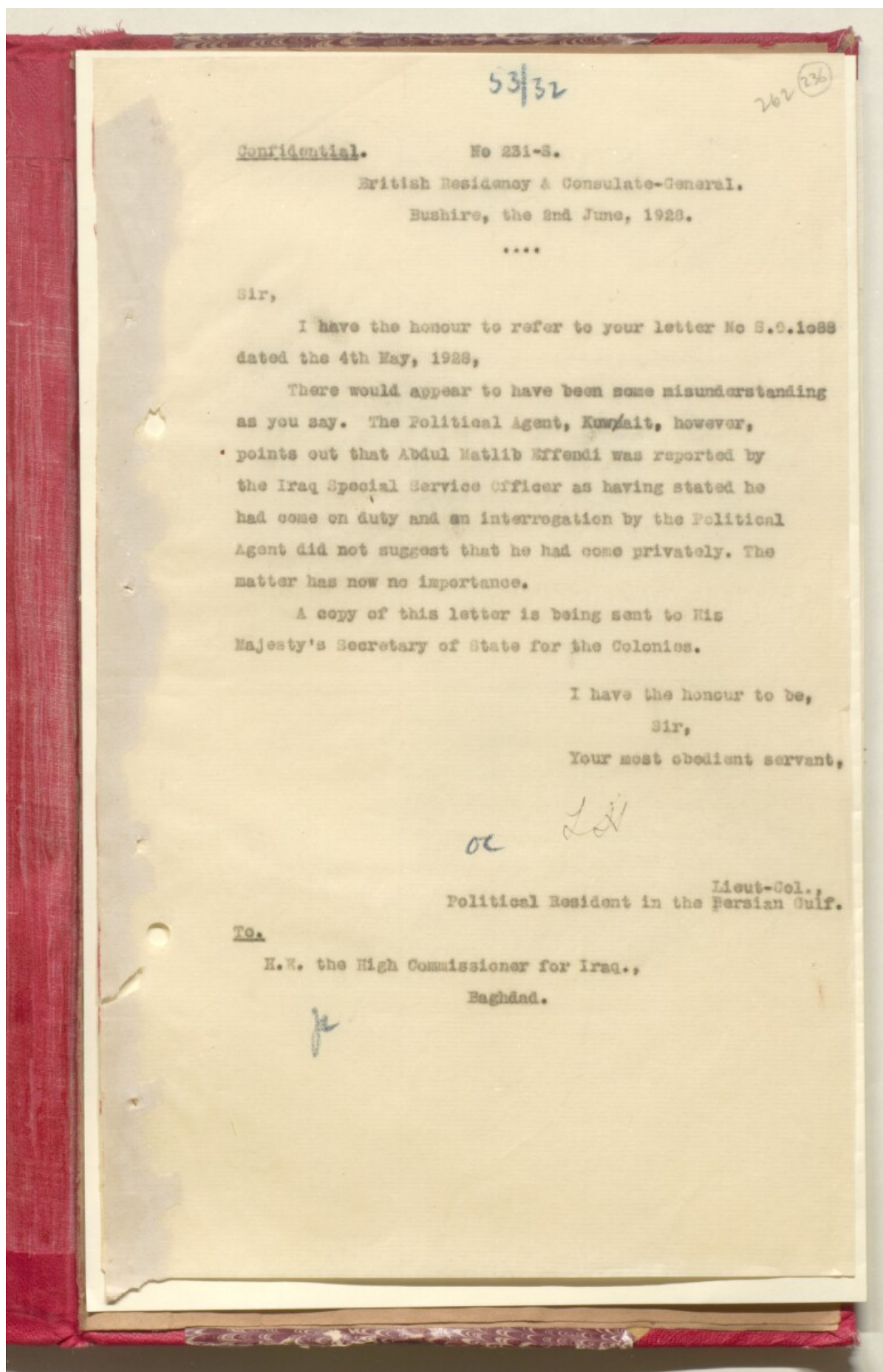
Reference despatch No. S.O.1088 dated 4th May 1928 from H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq ~~regarding~~ regarding the visit to Kuwait of the 'Iraq Police Inspector, 'Abdul Mutlib Effendi, which I reported to you in my telegram No.297 dated the 30th March 1928.

The result of H.E. the High Commissioner's enquiries into the matter is somewhat surprising. I first heard of the Police Inspector's arrival from Captain de Gaury, the Special Service Officer, who heard in the town that he had come and had said himself that he had been sent on duty. 'Abdul Mutlib Effendi himself never denied that he was on duty when I sent for him, or said anything to me about the debt being owed to his own father.

In any case, however, no further action seems to be possible or desirable.

J.C. Moore
Lt.-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





Confidential.

No 231-S.

British Residency & Consulate-General.

Bushire, the 2nd June, 1928.

....

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter No S.O.1088 dated the 4th May, 1928,

There would appear to have been some misunderstanding as you say. The Political Agent, Kuwait, however, points out that Abdul Matlib Effendi was reported by the Iraq Special Service Officer as having stated he had come on duty and an interrogation by the Political Agent did not suggest that he had come privately. The matter has now no importance.

A copy of this letter is being sent to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

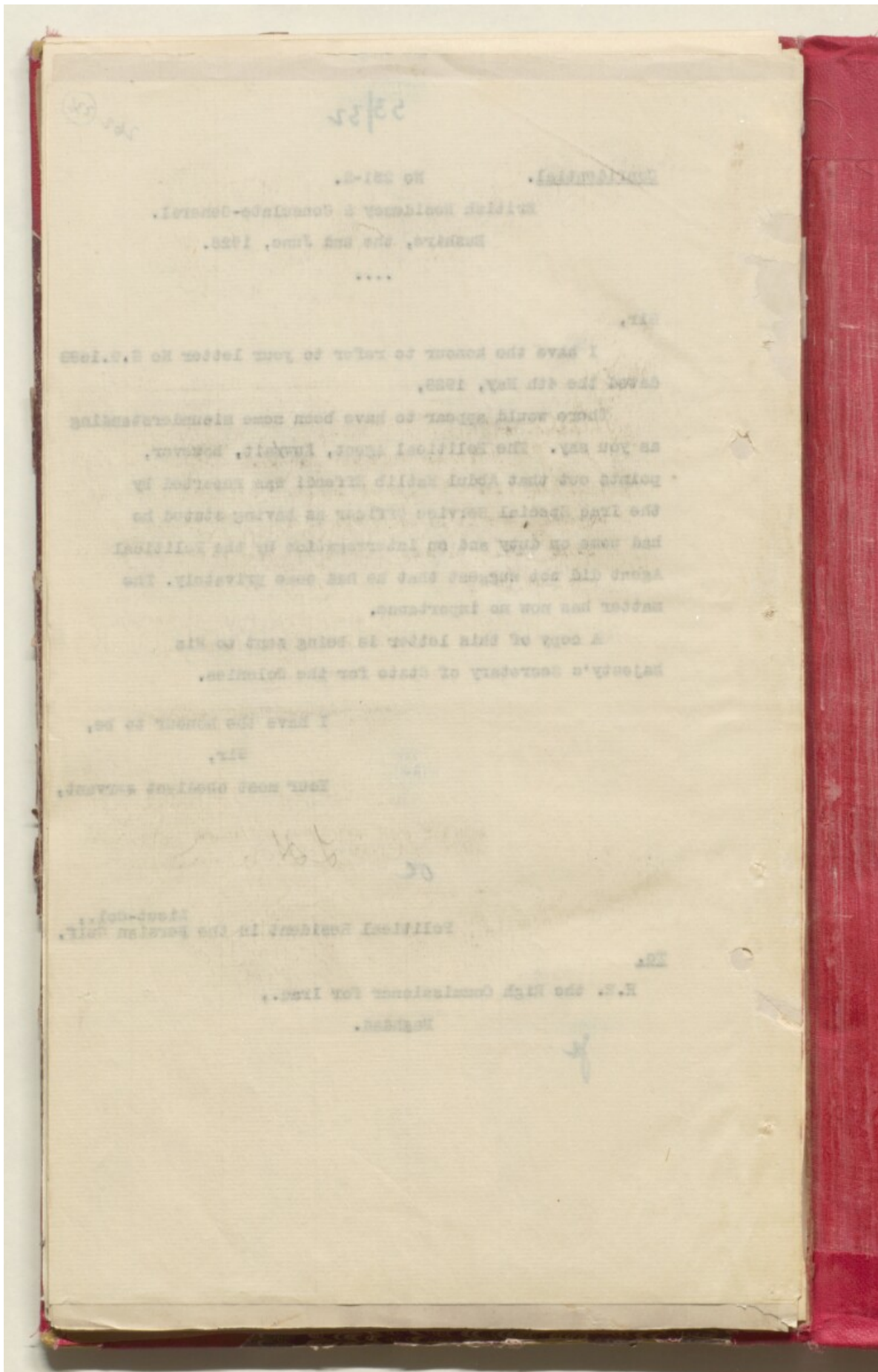
Your most obedient servant,

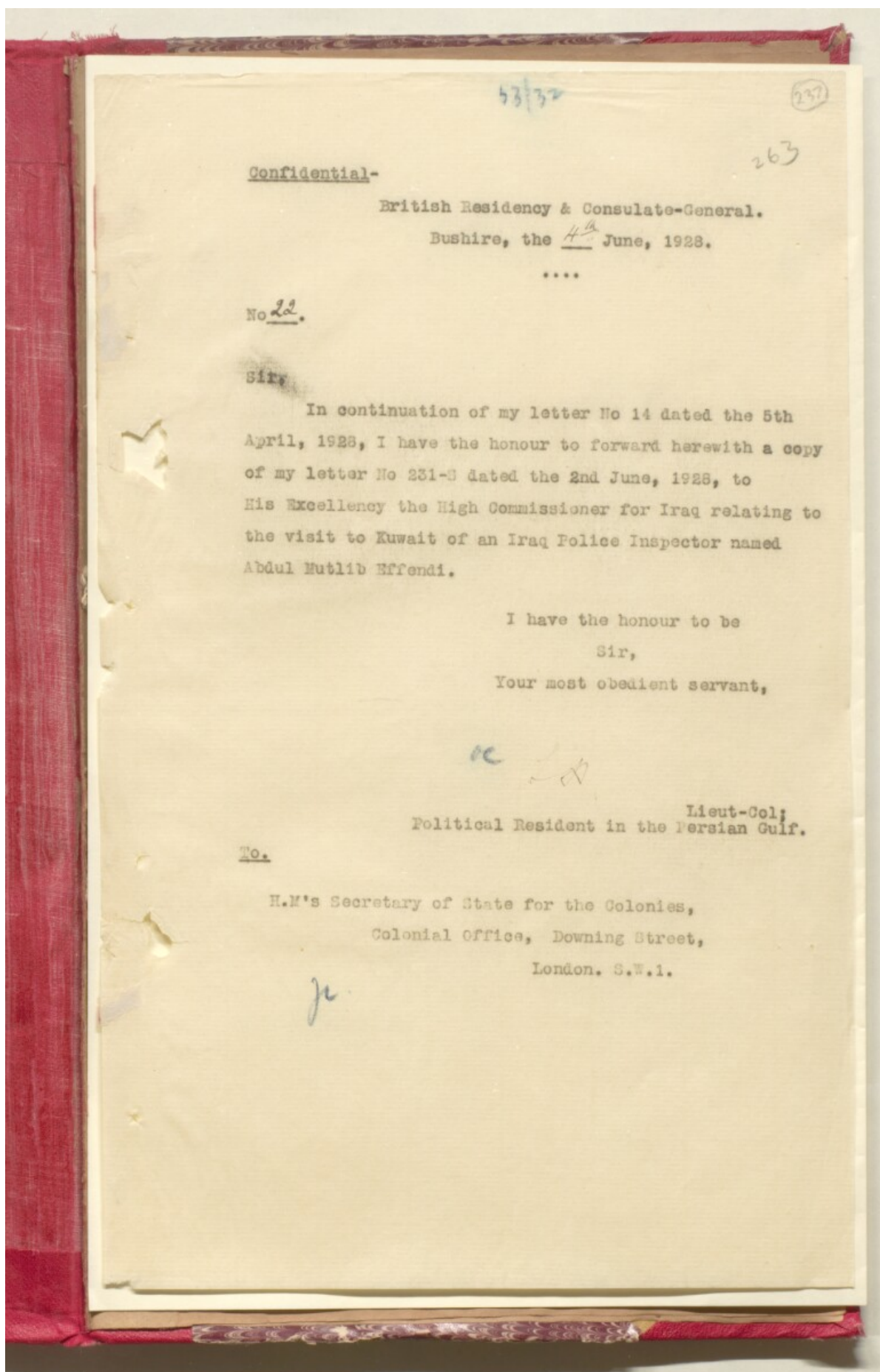
oc L.H.

Lieut-Col.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To.

H.E. the High Commissioner for Iraq.,
Baghdad.





Confidential-

British Residency & Consulate-General.

Bushire, the 4th June, 1928.

....

No 22.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No 14 dated the 5th April, 1928, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of my letter No 231-S dated the 2nd June, 1928, to His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq relating to the visit to Kuwait of an Iraq Police Inspector named Abdul Mutlib Effendi.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Lieut-Col;
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To.

H.M.'s Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office, Downing Street,
London. S.W.1.

